

SOUTH AFRICAN GARDEN HOME

THE BIG makeover ISSUE

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45 PAGES OF INSPIRING
BEFORES AND AFTERS

20
quick garden
FIXES

TREND ALERT

Latest looks in fabrics
New flooring
Tulips bred for SA

Savvy gardening



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DISTRIBUTION

RNA Distributors 12 Nobel Street, Industria 2093 011 248 3500

Fax 011 474 3583 rna@RNAD.co.za

PRINTING

by CTP Gravure, 19-21 Joyner Rd, Prospecton, and published by the proprietors, Caxton/RP Magazines (Reg No. 68/12588/06), 368 Jan Smuts Ave, Craighall. Box 1610, Parklands 2121

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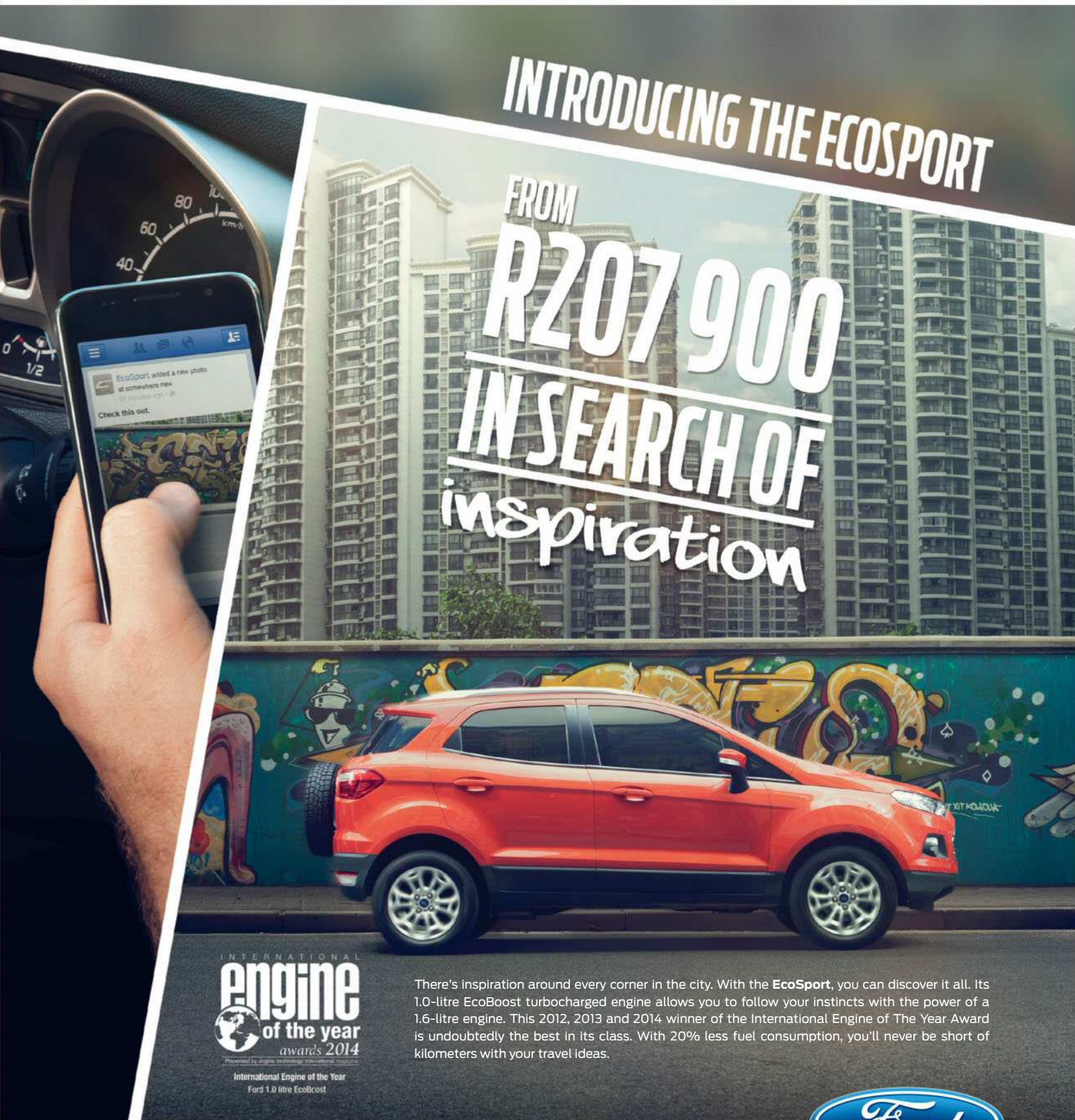
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Don't move, improve



Like many of you, I love a makeover. I adore those reality TV shows where Plain Janes are turned into beauties with a few make-up and fashion tips. And even though I'm not into cars, I'll admit I've sat glued to the box to see some old skedonk transformed into a rather sleazy men's club on wheels, complete with mini bar, Jacuzzi and acres of fake fur.

You'll be relieved to hear that the makeovers in this issue are a lot more tasteful. While some have only entailed a bit of reupholstery and swapping of accessories, others have been a lot more complicated, involving builders, engineers, plumbers and electricians, not to mention a much larger budget. But one thing they all have in common is that the changes have improved the lives of those who live there and, in some cases, upped the value of their properties.

It often takes a problem to initiate a change. In the case of the Küssels of Wartburg, KZN it was a leak that led to their kitchen renovation (see page 64). For Anne Schaffer, whose swimming pool makeover is featured on our cover, it was the loss of privacy when their neighbours built a veranda overlooking their outdoor living area. "While we didn't particularly like our sunken pool, we lived with it until this happened and we had to create space to plant screening trees," she explains. Although it involved a substantial investment, they now have a much more practical and attractive pool area and a level lawn from which to enjoy the great views of Durban. But the biggest benefit was regaining their privacy. "I'll never forget the day this giant vehicle came down the road and three fully grown trees were lifted over the wall with a crane. I felt like I had my life back!" says Anne. And you can't put a price on that.

All the houses and gardens featured in this issue are great examples of what can be done to make your home more appealing, comfortable and suited to your lifestyle. As the saying goes 'don't move, improve', especially if you love the area and the access to schools and shops. Even if you have no intention of doing any improvements at the present time, this issue is an invitation to dream and wonder 'What if?' What if we broke down that wall? What if we extended the bathroom? What if we turned our lawn into a formal garden as the Oosthuizen's of Pretoria did? See the remarkable results of their garden makeover on page 88.

Happy dreaming,

Heaven Jane



Like most gardeners I've tended to ignore tulips because they're tricky to grow. The great news is that there's now a wider choice of tulip bulbs suited to our climate including 'Carnaval de Nice' (pictured here). Read more about them on page 94.



White paint is one of the best makeover tools. Have a look at how it transformed interior decorator Jenna Penny's kitchen. You'll find the rest of her cluster home facelift on page 34.



As homes get smaller, furniture that looks good in small spaces is not always easy to find. This is why I love Woodbender's elegant new Toscana range of tables, which includes this desk. woodbender.co.za



Introducing new lamps is one of the easiest ways to freshen up a room. Browse our selection on page 76. "You can also update an old lamp with a custom-made shade," says decorator Susan Hughes. Turn to page 66 to see how she made over her guest bedroom.



I adore sweet peas and plant them every year as they're the most rewarding spring flowers to grow. Get them off to a good start by following the step-by-step instructions on sowing the seed on page 110.



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Mix and Match

The Woodoc Way



Woodoc Water-Borne FLOOR was used to seal the Oregon Pine table. A modern sealer for a modern application that is heat-, cold-, water- and alcohol-resistant. Non-yellowing and has minimal impact on wood colour. Being suitable for floor application, Woodoc Water-Borne FLOOR provides extra durability for tables used without a table cloth. A finish that complements any table setting.

Look for the Tangerine can.



The traditional High-Back chairs were sealed with **Woodoc 10 Velvet Polywax Sealer**. The classic Woodoc Indoor Sealer that gives furniture a warm lustrous look, whilst protecting against alcohol- and water staining as well as heat- and cold marking. The finish feels so good.

Look for the Green tin.



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Home FRONT

Our pick of this month's highlights, from things to do and seasonal shopping to decor news and the best places to visit



Well Structured

Architectonique is the bold new collection from Boussac by Pierre Frey. High-tech materials reach new heights of glam, from 3D faceted effects to stretch wool, faux fur and sheers. Combining softness with angularity, neon with monochrome, it's a must-have for modern spaces. The range is available at Mavromac mavromac.co.za

Designer's CHOICE

"I love this metal tubing hat rack (pictured above) designed by Rowan Mardghum," says designer Antonia Morgado of Makers of Stuff. "It's part of his office accessory range for On & In. Multiple items can hang from one pole, and units can be added or removed to suit the user. It's locally made, beautifully simple and easy to store." On & In 083 451 2878



Opulent Hues

Amazilia by Harlequin is a stunning new collection of fabrics and wallcoverings. Maximalist prints feature tropical designs in exotic colourways, from large-scale flowers to birds and butterflies. See the range at Black Fabrics. blackfabrics.co.za



Shine On

Isabelina's new range of mirrored furniture is just the thing to bring some subtle glamour to your home. isabelina.co.za



Warm as Toast

The new Slimfocus suspended fireplace combines fluid lines and minimum volume with excellent heat performance. Available in matt black or anthracite grey, with wood or gas-burning options, it's the last word in elegance. beautyfires.com ▷



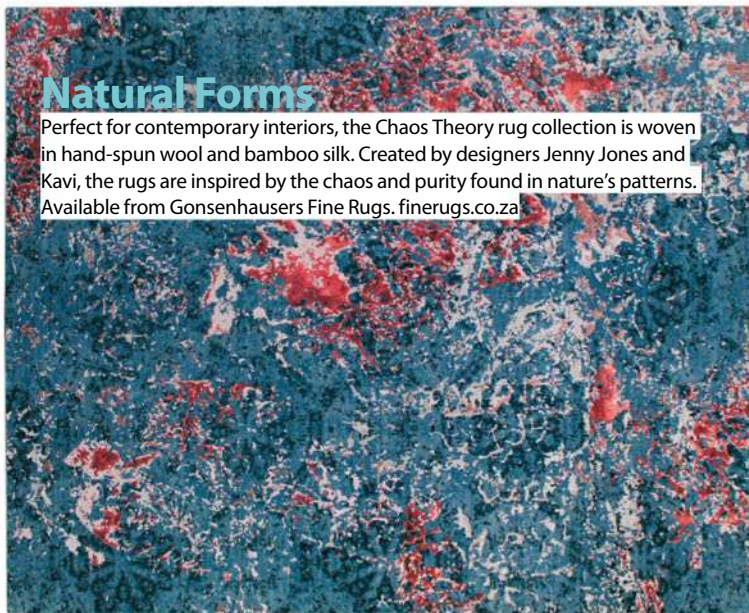
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Natural Forms

Perfect for contemporary interiors, the Chaos Theory rug collection is woven in hand-spun wool and bamboo silk. Created by designers Jenny Jones and Kavi, the rugs are inspired by the chaos and purity found in nature's patterns. Available from Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs. finerugs.co.za



Marsala Magic

Looking to add a touch of marsala, Pantone's 2015 Colour of the Year, to your decor? Then be sure to check out Home Fabrics' Bronco range which features a selection of plains in vibrant colours including the on-trend shade. hf.co.za



Stand-out Piece

We love the clean lines of this chaise longue in charcoal, R11 995, from Trade Secret. It's perfect for additional seating or as a focal point in a bay window or entrance hall. trade-secret.co.za



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DOWN SOUTH

Cape Town decor fans rejoice, La Grange Interiors has opened a showroom in Woodstock. The space will feature La Grange's renowned collection of unique furniture, antiques and decor accessories from across the globe, handpicked by owner Sumari Krige herself. lagrangeinteriors.co.za



This month we're loving... Chunky knits

"As autumn starts to creep into our evenings, I'm thinking of ways to ease the transition," says production manager Patricia Pieterse. "That's why I love chunky knits, like the natural fade scatter, R595, Weylands (1), or the Studio W moss-stitch throw (2), R899, and oversize knit scatter (3), R350, both Woolworths. They look cosy, but aren't too hot." ➤



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Pale and Interesting

Colette, Force 9 and Pashmina are three of the latest designs from Lewis & Wood. With their trademark delicate palette and captivating patterns, this quintessentially English look is laid-back yet luxe. See the range at St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za



Don't miss the *Garden and Home* readers' event at the Home Fabrics showroom in Kramerville on Saturday 18 April. This fabulous morning of beautiful fabrics, floral designs and table decor ideas is hosted in partnership with Home Fabrics and Atomic Orchid, and our expert speakers will present the latest trends in interior fabrics, flower combinations and working with colour and texture. 10h00 for 10h30, R50 per person including tea/coffee and a goodie bag. To book call 011 266 3767 or e-mail marketing@hf.co.za

Design Talent

Entries are still open for the Homewood Emerging Designer of the Year competition. Homewood Furniture invites budding designers to submit a portfolio of work. The six designers selected will each put together a room setting for Homewood's showroom in Kramerville, Johannesburg. Each setting will be on display for a month, and the designers will win the furniture they use as well as other great prizes. Visit homewood.co.za



African Dream

We love the vibrant colours and versatile patterns of Hertext's new Mama Africa range – a contemporary take on the tribal trend inspired by shweshwe prints. hertext.co.za




What's On

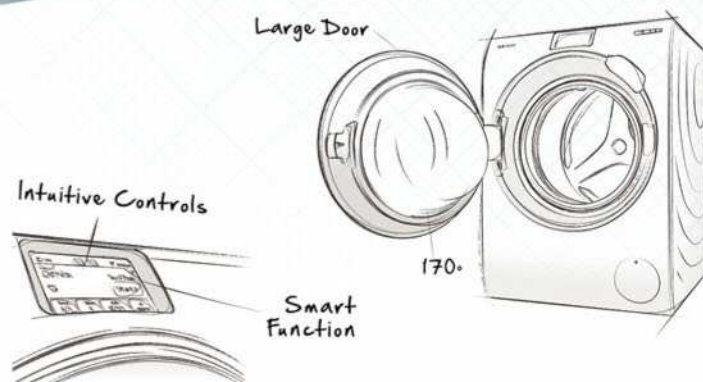
3 – 12 APRIL The Rand Show

Don't miss this great day out with plenty of family entertainment. Among the exhibits there's the biggest fun fair in Africa, musicians, comedians and a petting zoo. It takes place at the Johannesburg Expo Centre, Nasrec and tickets are R100 per adult, R50 for pensioners and teens aged 13 to 16, and R20 for kids. randshow.co.za

24 – 27 APRIL Decorex Cape Town

With the theme 'Home of Great Ideas' you can expect both practical and creative inspiration from established brands and new designer talent. The very latest lifestyle-related products will range from new fabrics and accessories to cutting-edge innovation in kitchens, bathrooms and home DIY. Taking place at the CTICC, the expo is open from 10h00 – 19h00 daily, and 10h00 – 18h00 on Monday 27 April. Tickets cost R80 for adults and R70 for trade, pensioners and scholars. decorex.co.za

WIN! We're giving away 10 double tickets to Decorex Cape Town, worth R80 each! To enter, **SMS DECOREX**, your name and e-mail address to 48406. An SMS costs R1,50, errors will be billed and free SMSes don't apply. Entries close on 17 April 2015. For full Ts&Cs, see page 123. 



Impressively designed, inside and out.

A move toward open plan living means home appliances are now on show. By choosing products with sleek designs and clean colours, you can ensure that every area in your home is perfectly chic.

Washing machines are usually concealed, but the striking appearance of the new Samsung WW9000 washing machine will make you want to put it on display. This modern technology with its exquisite finishing exudes luxury, making your home the perfect place to relax after a busy day of shopping at the mall or business meetings.

Part of the charm of this beautiful washing machine is its perfect blend of a sophisticated exterior design with a Wi-Fi enabled intelligent washing experience. The artistic wave line pattern and the elegant ice-blue door adds a touch of cool ambience to the room bringing a feeling of understated chic that fits beautifully into any home.

What makes this washing machine second to none is its built in SMART features which can be operated remotely from your smartphone with Intuitive Controls. Program it to wash while you're in a business meeting or out-and-about and return home from a busy day to find fresh, clean clothes, making every washing experience enjoyable and convenient.

The Samsung WW9000 washing machine is complemented with a Signature Promise that offers world class exclusive service benefits, each one imbued with the prestigious service quality that customers have come to expect. The offering is comprised of free delivery, product connection, in-home training and removal of any packaging to ensure the introduction of this new product addition to your home is an easy, worry-free experience.

From the moment this product is placed in your home, it will astound and delight you, serving as a reminder of your wonderful success and fantastic achievements. Every glance will make you feel as though you've arrived. Welcome to the life you deserve.



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Drawn FROM LIFE

Jo'burg-based artist Lizette Chilvers revels in the process of taking art from a sketch to print

Have you always been an artist?

I've always been creative and did a fine arts degree at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg where I majored in printmaking. Then I worked as a graphic designer for many years. For the past seven years, I've worked as an artist at The Blue Door Studio.

What inspires you?

My greatest inspiration is Penny Siopis. I fell in love with her work when I was a teenager. It had so many layers of meaning. I'm also inspired by everything around me. I'm always observing – from people and their behaviour to the beauty of my garden.

Tell us about your artistic style.

I love drawing, so my art is based on that. I've tried to loosen up over the years, but the underlying quality of drawing drives all my artworks.

How does an idea become a finished piece?

First, I take photographs. For my figurative work, I use my friends as muses and then work from their pictures. Then I draw, draw, draw and once I have the image I want, I work on it at the studio and send it through the press when I'm satisfied.

Why did you choose printmaking?

I fell in love with it at university. I adore the processes and the joy of putting a plate on the press bed. There's a great sense of achievement



when you lift up the paper and it's successful. There's also an element of surprise – things often happen that you weren't expecting.

What are your challenges?

Working with a press can be very physical. Also, when doing a monoprint, you only have one chance to get it right.

Describe your studio.

I have a tiny space at home where I keep my press, and I also work at The Blue Door Studio with owner and master printer Collin Cole, who is a great sounding board for my ideas.

What have been your career highlights?

As a student, I was part of the Volkskas Bank Atelier exhibition at the Everard Read Gallery. Since then I've been shown at a two-man exhibition with Collin Cole at the iStore Art Gallery and at a collective with David Brown at the Art Fair. Most recently, my work was at an exhibition called IDentity at the In Toto Gallery and an exhibition called 16 at Upstairs@Bamboo.

What are your future plans?

I'm working on a solo exhibition and am busy creating a new style which will combine prints, painting and sculpture in a single three-dimensional artwork. I'm also launching my own art website to showcase my work in three different categories: my angst-filled social commentary works, my fun, nature-inspired works and my oil portraits. **GH**

SOURCES Lizette Chilvers lizettechilvers.com or 071 673 9775
The Blue Door Studio 082 924 6673

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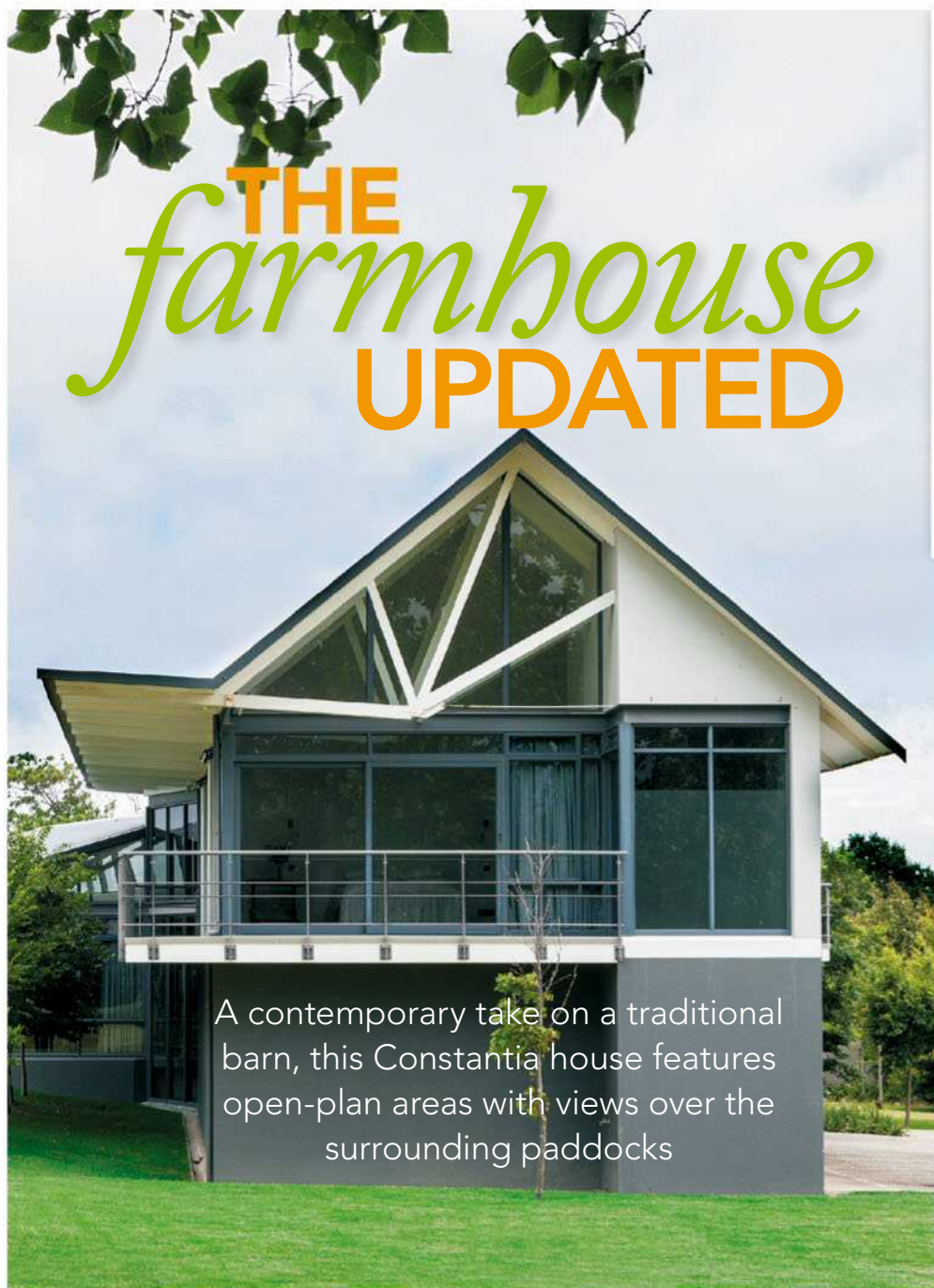
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A contemporary take on a traditional barn, this Constantia house features open-plan areas with views over the surrounding paddocks

AT A GLANCE

THE ARCHITECT: Rick Brown of Rick Brown & Associates Architects.

THE CLIENTS: A businessman, his wife and their dogs and horses.

THE BRIEF: A country home with two bedrooms and bathrooms in keeping with the rural surroundings.

THE HOUSE: A compact, contemporary, double-storey house set on a two-acre site.

Cape architect Rick Brown's residential work has been influenced by many years of designing commercial buildings, including retail centres, office blocks, wineries and hotels. "Working in the commercial field you gain a thorough understanding of what good building is all about and you pay closer attention to things like the structural ordering of spaces, waterproofing and the use of appropriate materials," he maintains.

Rick graduated from the University of Cape Town's School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics and cut his career teeth with architectural firm

Louis Karol before a five-year stint in the US. After returning home, he spent another seven years with Louis Karol before starting his own practice in 2000.

"Commercial design teaches one to maximise the use of space, to give small spaces the illusion of large ones by bringing in a lot of light and a sense of airy openness," he says.

This is what he achieved in this simply styled house where his intention was to maximise the light from the north and to protect the outdoor areas from the south-east winds. "The house is quite small but as you come in the front door you have an immediate sense of space and airiness," he says.

Although the site is mainly level, it drops away towards the boundary where the house is situated. Rick used this change in level to create different entry stages to the house. From the front door you climb a couple of steps to the living area and then up again via a steel staircase with open wooden treads to the first-floor bedrooms, built over the garages.

There are few doors and just one passageway, a glassed-in walkway, along the south side of the house which gives

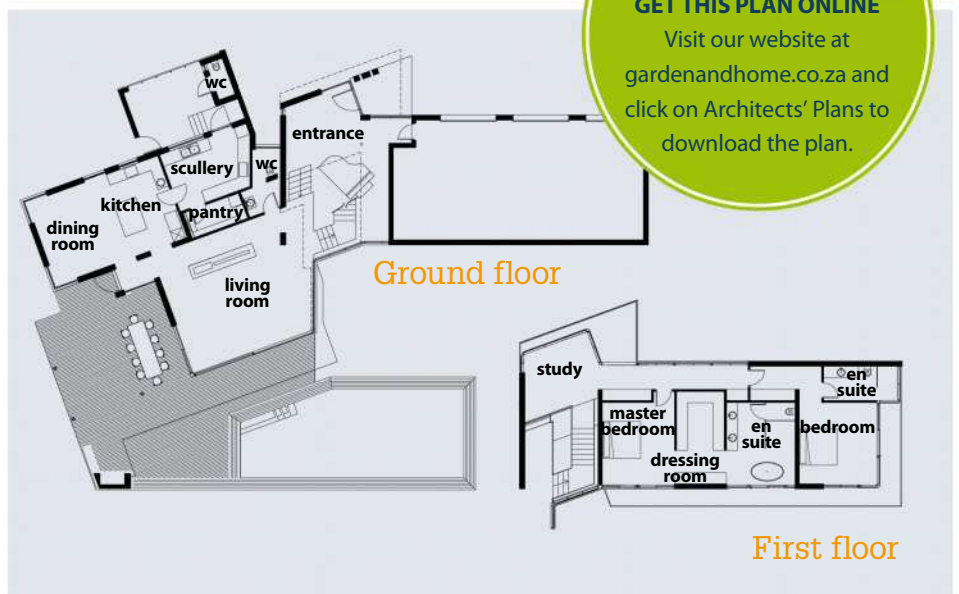


access to the bedrooms. There are no flat ceiling areas either. The barn theme is repeated throughout the house with ceilings open to expose steel or timber rafters.

“As with commercial buildings, you need to create the right flow from one area to the next,” says Rick. This open-plan house has large sliding aluminium doors opening on to a large deck with pool and braai area. As there are no overlooking neighbours, lofty floor-to-ceiling windows were used in all the rooms.

It’s a very understated, carefully designed house. As the owner says, “Even after living in the house for quite some time, I can be sitting in the living room and catch sight of something, perhaps the way the timber rafters are combined with steel rafters, that just makes you think, ‘well that’s a really nice idea.’” **GCH**

SOURCE Rick Brown & Associates
Architects 021 424 3064 or rba.co.za



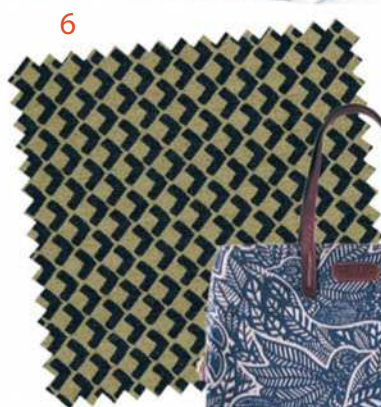
ON THE WEB

GET THIS PLAN ONLINE

Visit our website at gardenandhome.co.za and click on Architects' Plans to download the plan.

What's trending now: *Handcrafted textiles*

"Handmade, handpainted and repurposed textiles are big news at the moment," says designer Helen Gibbs, owner of Helon Melon in Cape Town. "What I love is that they're unique and tell a story."



1. Branch storage **basket**, R500, Love Milo. 2. Mandela **purse**, R295, Helon Melon. 3. Shibori **scatter cushions** in grey linen, R920 each, LIM. 4. Chevron **fabric**, R650/m, Studio Number 19. 5. Fabric **calendar**, R650, Helon Melon. 6. Mavromac South, Fusion, Peaks **fabric** in Flax/Navy, R811/m, Mavromac. 7. Workhorse **bag**, from R1 850, Missibaba. 8. Stripe **tote**, R400, Love Milo. 9. Candyfloss and Ice Cream Bush **cushion covers**, from R485, Touchee Feelee. GH

SOURCES Helon Melon helonmelon.co.za LIM lim.co.za Love Milo lovemilo.com Mavromac mavromac.co.za Missibaba missibaba.co.za Studio Number 19 studio19.co.za Touchee Feelee store.toucheefeelee.co.za

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space at Homewood's Johannesburg showroom using Homewood furniture and the sponsors' generous cash and product contributions.

An overall winner will be chosen in October 2015. Each living space will be on view for a month starting from 29 April 2015, so don't miss this opportunity to view some exciting decor schemes. Keep a look out for details on *Garden and Home's* Facebook page.



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homewood.co.za/designer2015.html

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Annie Sloan
SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH of the border

A combination of colourful patterns creates a cheerful room with a distinct Mexican flavour





Get the look

Des Armstrong, an expert in Mexican style and owner of Hadedashop in Johannesburg, has these tips for introducing this vibrant look to your home:

- Mexico is a country rich in colour, not only in the landscape but also in the art and architecture, so colour is vital. Choose rich shades including reds, oranges and deep pink with touches of blue and green. Paint a chair or a front door to introduce colour slowly.
- Pattern is essential and you can bring it in with handwoven and embroidered throws, cushions and rugs.
- Terracotta tiled floors show off this style to perfection. Use colourful handpainted tiles as insets in these floors or as a splashback.
- Making walls beautiful is typically Mexican. Hang a selection of mirrors, silver crosses or any handcrafted collection to make a feature of a wall.



Brighten up a room with these 5cm x 5cm **tiles**, R9 each, Hadedashop.



Frame your reflection with this Peruvian **mirror**, R2 400, Hadedashop.



Add a boho touch with this **lampshade** designed by Caversham Textiles, R610, Hello Pretty.



Add luxury underfoot with a bright rug. **Dhurrie**, R1 800/m², Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs.



Solid wood complements this style. **Narina coffee table**, R5 995, Loft Living.

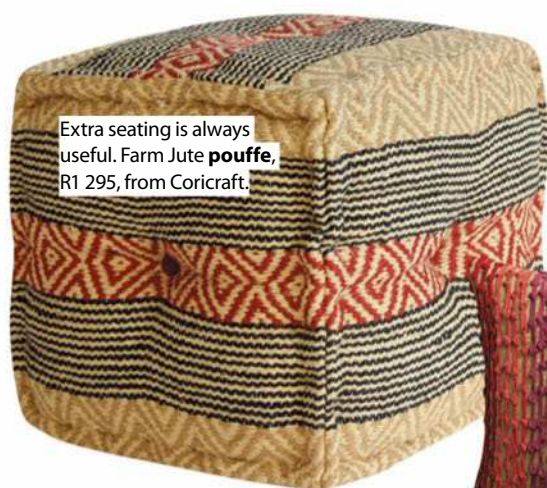
Include a conversation piece like this **Circle of Friends**, from R120, Hadedashop.



A Frida Kahlo-inspired **painting**, R320, from Hello Pretty, will bring the heart of Mexico to the room.



Give the room a festive touch with this bright patterned Otami **scatter**, R750 (excl. inner), from Mexican Imports.



Extra seating is always useful. **Farm Jute pouffe**, R1 295, from Coricraft.



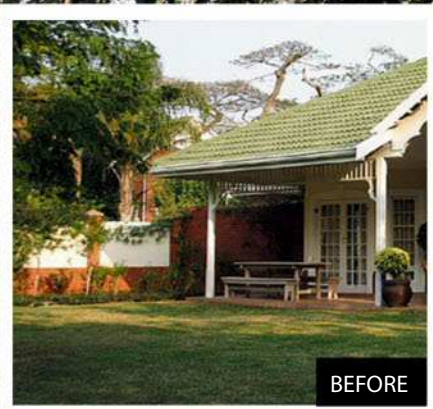
Add some texture. Studio W woven **scatter cushion**, R350, from Woolworths.



Add pattern and vibrance with **Afro Heart Damask fabric**, R480/m, Design Team.

SOURCES Coricraft coricraft.co.za Design Team 012 653 1973 or designteamfabrics.co.za Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs 021 462 4819 or finerugs.co.za Hadedashop 011 788 5774 or hadedashop.com Hello Pretty helloworldpretty.co.za Loft Living 021 422 0088 or loftliving.co.za Mexican Imports mexicanimports.co.za Woolworths 0860 022 002 or woolworths.co.za

This pretty **pergola** is ideal for entertaining and the roof can be opened or closed depending on the weather.



A NEW Leaf

A garden makeover led to a complete revamp of this family home in Durban

Who lives here

A couple and two of their three sons – the third visits often.

The house

The property has different components: the main house, a separate en suite guest room, a loft room with a bedroom, bathroom and living area as well as a separate flatlet. The main house has an open-plan living area with a mezzanine level housing an office. The living area opens onto a patio and leads through to two en suite bedrooms.



“Surprisingly, this renovation actually started with the garden,” recall the owners of this Durban property. “It had become overgrown and shady and we were finding the house cold and damp as a result. Having spent a fortune on plants in the past only to find that the garden still didn’t look like much, we decided to call in the professionals.”

Greg Thompson of Blok Designs started by removing 16 exotic trees and then created a much more formal feel with clearly defined spaces, well-placed paving, water features and wrought-iron detailing. Adding a swimming pool and a covered dining area as well as extending the patio has given the garden a completely new look and the owners now regularly entertain alfresco, which had been impossible on the original veranda.

The owners asked Mark and Michele Metior of M+M Design to assist in planning these areas, designing the furniture and adding the finishing touches to create a stylish yet relaxed outdoor living area. “We were delighted with the results but then realised that the interiors were looking very dated in comparison, so M+M Design >

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ● The **garden**, designed by Blok Designs, is filled with delightful details such as this row of pots perched on a wrought iron shelf. ● The 12-seater table in the **outdoor dining area** was designed by M+M Space Design. ● Water features in the **garden** reflect views of the surrounding greenery, attract birds and insects and create tranquil sounds.



BEFORE



The **living room's** neutral palette was given a colour injection with the addition of turquoise ceramic vessels and cushions in Ardmore Protea Fields fabric in Kingfisher from Mavromac.



BEFORE

were soon back to give the interior an update,” they explain.

Mark and Michele recall that the inside of the house was divided into small rooms which were difficult to navigate. “The staircase which leads up to the mezzanine level was so

awkwardly placed that we couldn’t make the rooms work,” they explain. Once this was removed and replaced with a new staircase on the opposite side of the room, everything else fell into place. Walls were torn down to create an open-plan kitchen and living area which is much more suited to the family’s lifestyle. An inconveniently placed fireplace was also taken out which allowed them to do away with the chimney jutting into the master bedroom. ▷

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ● The bespoke spiral staircase takes up little space in the **living room** but creates a striking feature. ● In the **entrance hall**, Casson wallpaper from Romo South Africa is the ideal backdrop for a sextet of prints from the Elizabeth Gordon Gallery which are lit by a pair of wall lights – a detail which enhances the gallery feel. ● The warm timber in the **kitchen** has been used throughout the house to link the rooms.





The new bespoke wrought-iron spiral staircase by M+M Design takes up far less space and is not only functional, but makes a statement without being overwhelming. Botanical-inspired artworks are displayed in all areas of the home but are most striking on the walls of the mezzanine level.

“Another essential element of our brief was that the house should have a timeless feel,” say the owners. “A mistake we’ve made in the past is not choosing a neutral base and finishes that can be updated easily.” Their home now has a colonial atmosphere with layers of detail and interest. Each item in the

house was designed or carefully chosen by M+M Design to create a laid-back and welcoming home which truly reflects the family’s style.

“Our work is tailored to our clients. We get to know them so we understand their lifestyle and what matters most to them both practically and aesthetically. We then customise their home to meet those needs. Every project is completely unique and it’s important to us that the homes we work on do not have our signature but are rather immediately recognisable as belonging to the people who live there,” they explain. ▸



THIS SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: ● The bookshelf in the **family lounge** is not only an attractive piece, it houses special items that have meaning to the family. "It's my greatest joy that my father's books about things he was passionate about like mushrooms and butterflies are displayed in here," says the owner. ● The **guest room** closet conceals a kettle and microwave as a convenience for guests. A delicate wallpaper creates a focal point behind the bed and echoes the botanical influences of the rest of the house. ● The main en suite **bathroom** has a double vanity and a linen-upholstered stool giving it a luxurious spa feel.



Get the look

Combine classic pieces with a few modern accessories for a timeless atmosphere **GH**



Imported natural linen occasional **chair**, R10 750, SHF.



Grand Manhattan eight-light **chandelier**, R5 495, Ambiente Luce.



Penelope **coffee table**, R6 999, JVB Furniture Collection.



Ardmore Protea Field **fabric** in Desert, R966,72/m, Mavromac.

Clarke & Clarke Festival Jubilee **fabric** in Aqua, R1 141/m, Home Fabrics.

Jonne terracotta **vase**, R995, Weylandts.



Tabriz Persian **carpet**, R5 500/m², Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs.



ABOVE AND BELOW: ● Library wallpaper by Andrew Martin from Halogen International teamed with Ceylon Collection wallpaper from United Wallcoverings gives the **teenage son's bedroom** a contemporary colonial feel. ● In the **son's bedroom**, the colourful design of the Mantis Upright Lounger from Vogel makes a statement.

SOURCES Ambiente Luce ambienteluce.com Blok Designs janblok.co.za Elizabeth Gordon Gallery elizabethgordon.co.za Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs finerugs.co.za Halogen International halogen.co.za Home Fabrics hf.co.za JVB Furniture Collection j-v-b.co.za M+M Design mmdesigns.co.za Mavromac mavromac.co.za Romo South Africa romosouthafrica.com SHF shf.co.za United Wallcoverings unitedwallcoverings.co.za Vogel vogeldesign.co.za Weylandts weylandts.co.za

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BLIND SELECTION TIPS: Different blinds offer different benefits, from light filtering to complete block-out. Always hold the blind you're considering up against a light source to see exactly how it's affected by light. Consider the level of privacy you need, against what the blind will provide - for example, a light filtering blind won't offer privacy at night. Depending on your window measurements, blinds can be hung either inside your window recess or onto the wall above your window.



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SMART & SAVVY

Interior decorator Jenna Penny proved you don't need to break the bank to give a home a stylish update

Who lives here

Interior decorator Jenna Penny, her fiancé Michael and their two Jack Russells, Pixie and Thuli.

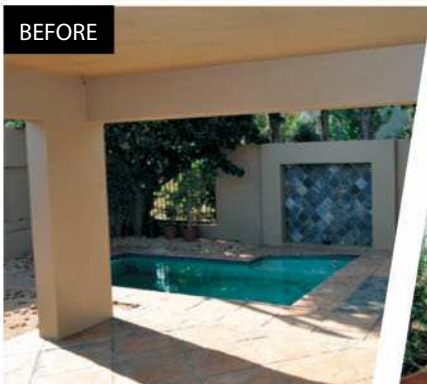
The house

A three-bedroom single-storey cluster home built in the early 1990s with a large open-plan living and dining area at the centre. ▷

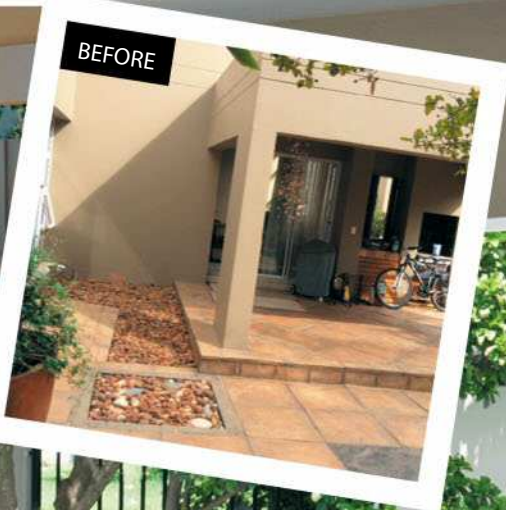
THIS PAGE, TOP LEFT TO RIGHT: ● The coffee table and ceramic vases on the spacious **patio** are from Mr Price Home. ● An **outdoor dining area** was created by building up the floor and roofing the area with polycarbonate sheeting. The table is from Lotters Pine.



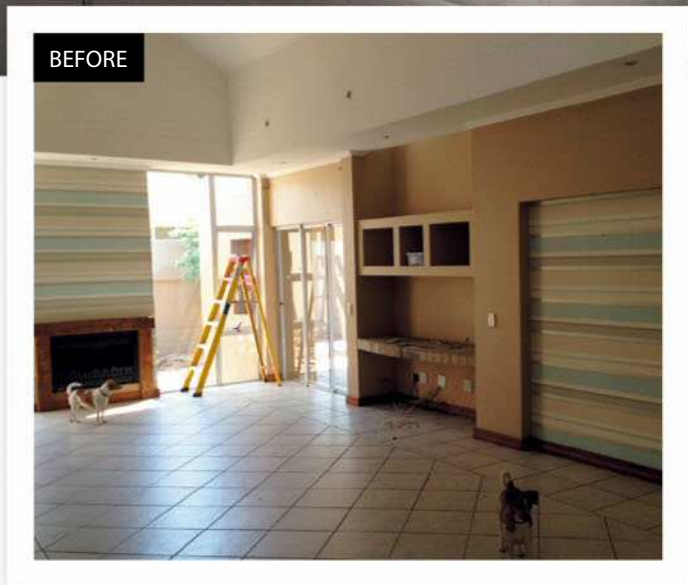
BEFORE



BEFORE



The dates tiles on the **patio** were covered with a cement screed. The scatter cushions feature African Cross Anthracite on bleached and African Daisy Chain on bleached from T&Co.

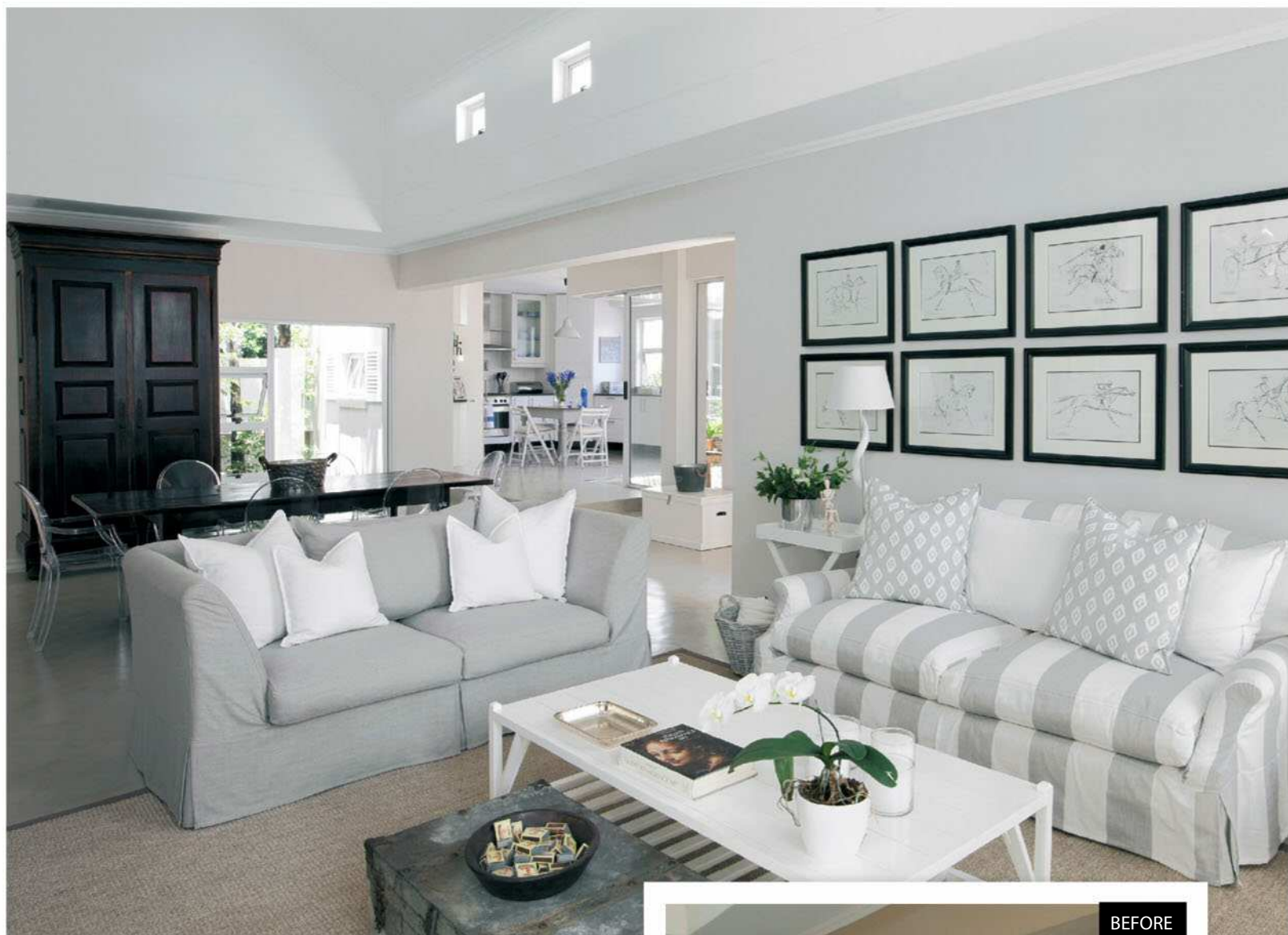


ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: ● Stripping the wallpaper and screeding the floor transformed the **living area**. Kosi Cotton Grey from Wolfe Street Fabrics was used to upholster the occasional chairs and the mirror came from Victorian Bathrooms. ● Stacked wood creates a striking feature in a space that previously housed a cabinet.

For Jo'burg-based interior decorator Jenna Penny, there's nothing better than rolling up her sleeves and getting stuck into a 'fix-up' which was exactly what awaited her and her fiancé Michael in their new home. The couple didn't have the budget for a full-blown renovation so they intentionally looked for a house that they could improve with some clever, cost-effective ideas.

What appealed most about the house they bought in Jo'burg's northern suburbs was its spacious living and dining area which features a pitched roof. "When we entertain, which we do often, it's usually a crowd and this house offered a wonderful space," says Jenna. The kitchen, however, posed a problem. It was separated from the open-plan living space by a bulky balustrade and an awkward low wall. Jenna decided to remove all of this and build two shallow steps to connect them. "We're so pleased with the result which has created an almost seamless flow between the three areas," says Jenna.

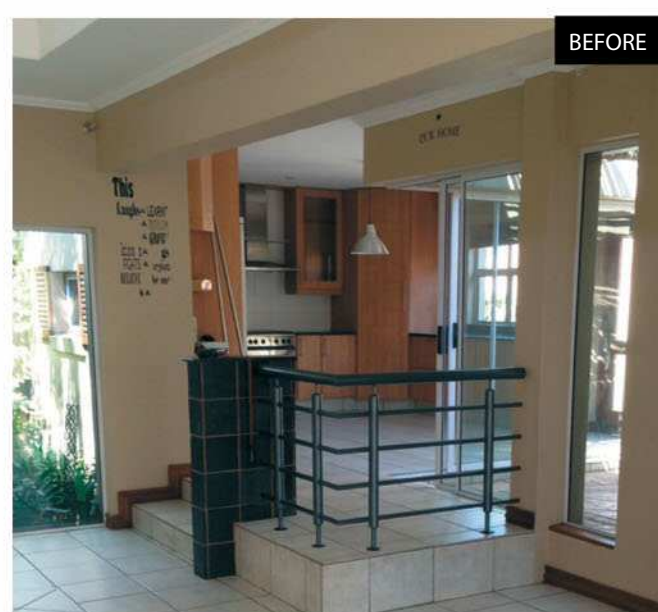
Another issue was the tiles, specifically the way in which they had been laid. While some were placed on the diagonal,



others sat side by side and the mix of patterns divided up the floor space making it feel much smaller than it really was. Jenna decided to lift them and replace them with screed. “This was our biggest expense but I knew it would make the greatest overall impact,” she says, adding that the two-week-long process was worth the effort. “Not only do the floors enhance the sense of space, they provide a foundation that works with any style.”

Next all the doors and wood finishes were painted white. This completely transformed the kitchen changing it from heavy and traditional into fresh and contemporary. “We just didn’t see the need to spend unnecessarily when the cabinetry was in good condition and the layout worked,” explains Jenna. Striped wallpaper, which had been used to create feature walls in certain areas, was stripped and the whole house was painted pale grey which enhanced the feeling of spaciousness.

To lift the scheme and create interest Jenna introduced a bold stripe on one sofa and a subtle diamond pattern on the occasional chairs. “In addition to pattern and texture it’s essential to establish a proportion of tonal contrast in a ➤



ABOVE: The railing was removed to create a better connection between the **living room** and kitchen. The rug is from Limaro House and the coffee table from Block & Chisel. The large armoire and teak dining table provide a strong contrast to the lighter furnishings.



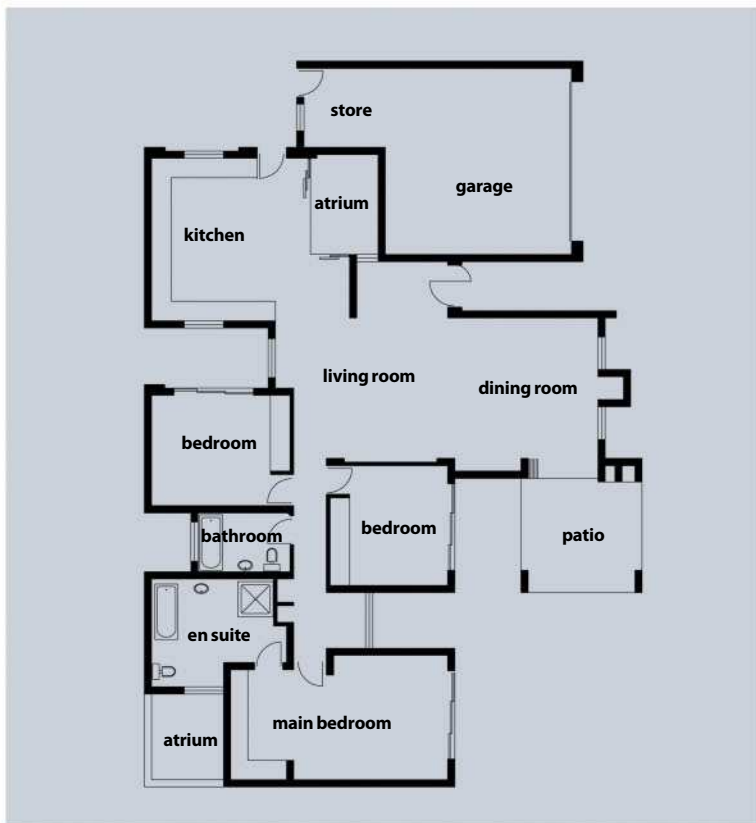
BEFORE



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All it took was a coat of white paint to give the existing **kitchen** a facelift. The fold-up chairs are from Mr Price Home.



neutral interior,” says Jenna, explaining that this was provided by the antique armoire and the teak dining table. Black was used as an accent in the guest bedroom while a deep nautical blue strikes a dramatic yet peaceful note in the main bedroom.

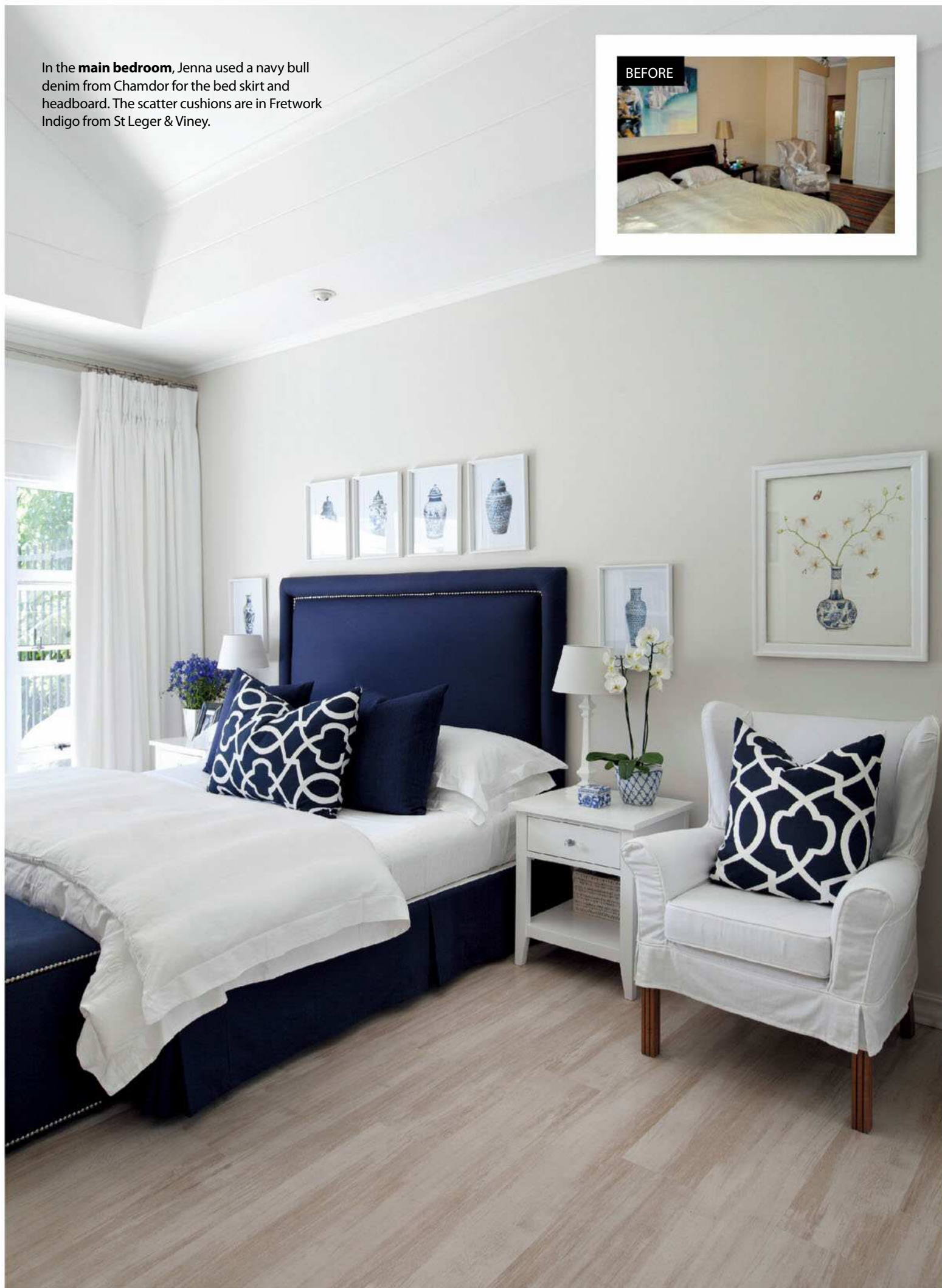
The patio was given just as much attention as the interior. To provide enough room for both sitting and dining they incorporated a dead space in front of the guest bedroom. “It was easy and inexpensive and only involved building up the ground to the current floor level and constructing a roof out of timber and polycarbonate roof sheeting,” explains Jenna. A rough cement screed was installed directly on top of the dated patio tiles and the tiles surrounding the pool were replaced with handsome concrete slabs. “These were such a win at R27,99 each,” she reveals. “Not everything has to cost a fortune to look good.” ▷

ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: ● Jenna decided on Cemcrete floors to enhance the seamless feel throughout the open-plan **living space**.

● Part of the passage doubles as a small **study area**. The horse sculptures were bought in Mauritius and the square mirrors are from Mr Price Home.

In the **main bedroom**, Jenna used a navy bull denim from Chamdor for the bed skirt and headboard. The scatter cushions are in Fretwork Indigo from St Leger & Viney.

BEFORE



BEFORE



THIS PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM: ● Jenna kept the original bathroom fittings but painted the walls and added mirrors, artwork and blue and white accessories. ● A leafy plant and Asian-inspired accessories add interest to a chest of drawers.

Get the look

Use a combination of natural textures to replicate this afro-chic patio



Lounge chair
Lotte-Kubu, R2 200,
La Grange Interiors.



Caribbean drum
table, R1 750, SHF.



Acapulco Vallarta fabric
in Natural, R650/m,
Home Fabrics.

Kosi Cotton fabric in Grey,
R420/m, Wolfe
Street Fabrics.

Veranda rug
R8 250, Hertex.



Wooden bowl, R3 700,
Cécile & Boyd.

SOURCES Block & Chisel blockandchisel.co.za Cécile & Boyd cecileandboyds.com Cemcrete cemcrete.co.za Chamdor chamdor.com Hertex hertex.co.za Home Fabrics hf.co.za Jenna Penny Interiors 072 300 0157 or jennapennyinteriors.co.za La Grange Interiors lagrangeinteriors.co.za Limaro House limarohouse.co.za Lotters Pine lotterspines.com Mr Price Home mrphome.com SHF shf.co.za St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za T&Co 011 262 4718 Victorian Bathrooms victorianbathrooms.co.za Wolfe Street Fabrics wolfestreet.co.za

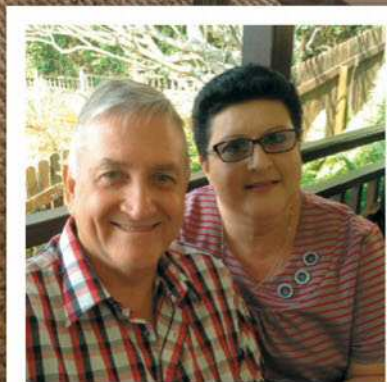
durban townhouse



BEFORE

TAILOR MADE

With the help of a talented design team and a great builder, Durbanites Patrick and Leigh Moon renovated their new townhouse to suit their lifestyle and taste



Who lives here

Empty nesters Patrick and Leigh Moon whose daughters and grandchildren visit often.

The house

A three-bedroom townhouse in La Lucia, KZN, with an open-plan living area, separate study, main en suite bathroom, guest bathroom, double garage, patio and swimming pool.



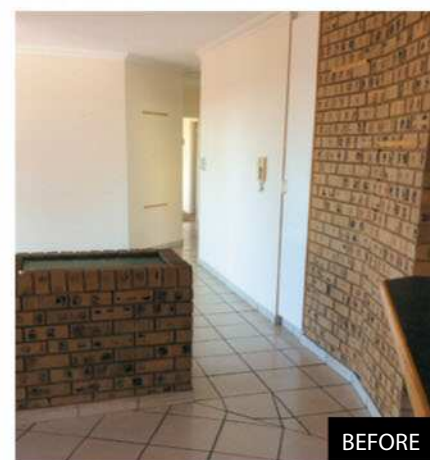
“After 25 years in our traditional Durban North house, we wanted to downsize. Our daughters had left home and we didn’t need such a large place,” explain Patrick and Leigh Moon. “After looking around we finally found a townhouse that ticked all the boxes regarding position, security, size and price.” However the knotty pine beams and the facebrick feature walls weren’t in keeping with the contemporary, uncluttered style they had in mind. “Although we spotted the potential in the house immediately, we weren’t sure what changes were going to be possible, so we asked Kelsey Boyce and Bruce Fyfe of Fyfe Boyce Design for advice.”

While the open-plan design worked well for the Moons, Kelsey and Bruce felt it could be improved by opening up the kitchen to the living areas and removing awkward features like an indoor planter (complete with drainage system) and replacing a series of facebrick columns with

shutters to separate the main living area from the dining room. “When renovating, keep in mind that removing walls is fairly easy and inexpensive and can make a huge difference,” says Kelsey.

While they kept the same footprint for the kitchen and the wiring and plumbing stayed in the same place, the outdated cabinets were replaced with ones featuring a duco paint finish. By removing part of a wall and the original counter, there was space for a new peninsular unit fitted with drawers and cabinets on both sides. “This unit has become the focal point of the open-plan living area. It allows me to feel connected when cooking meals and is ideal when entertaining too,” says Leigh.

As both the Moons and the design team found the facebrick detailing a bit overwhelming, the walls were plastered and painted. “We always recommend painting the skirting boards, walls and cornices the same colour, as this makes small spaces feel much larger,” says Kelsey. The knotty ▷



OPPOSITE PAGE: The biggest change in the main lounge was achieved by painting the knotty pine beams a crisp white. A new chandelier draws the eye upwards and armchairs from Block & Chisel and Cécile & Boyd add elegance. The cushions are in Elysian Field and Swarga Paisley and the ottomans are covered in Trans Africa, all from St Leger & Viney.

ABOVE: The gallery wall in the casual living area is one of Leigh and Patrick’s favourite features. A large, built-in planter was removed to increase the flow between this room and the dining room and kitchen.



BEFORE

pine beams were also painted white and to give the living room depth, the designers covered a feature wall with a sisal wallpaper.

The floors in the living areas were retiled while those in the bedrooms were carpeted by Top Carpets and Floors with Belgotex Floors' luxurious Westminster. "Keeping the same flooring throughout the living rooms creates a seamless flow which also adds to the illusion of space," explains Kelsey.

The main bedroom suite, which included a dressing area and tiny bathroom, also got the designer treatment. As they installed new built-in cupboards in

the bedroom there was no need for a dressing room and this space was used to increase the size of the bathroom. A new double vanity, a freestanding bath and a frameless shower have turned the bathroom into a luxurious retreat. One of the best features is the shutters, which separate the rooms, giving privacy when needed and the opportunity to lie in the bath and admire the sea views through the bedroom.

Once the renovations, undertaken by builder Steve Wells, were complete the next step was to furnish and decorate.

"We love having our children and grandchildren around so while we wanted our new home to look beautiful, it still had to be comfortable and practical," says Leigh. As she and Patrick wanted to keep sentimental pieces like her grandmother's 1930's Singer sewing machine and her parents' ball and claw lounge suite, Kelsey and Bruce mixed these in with more

modern furniture giving the interiors an up-to-date yet classic style. The larger pieces of furniture were slipcovered in neutral shades with interest coming from the latest fabrics on the scatter cushions and ottomans.

"Initially we were anxious about leaving the house where we'd brought up our daughters, Lauren and Shannon. But we adore our new home and look forward to making lots of great memories here," say the Moons. ▸



THIS SPREAD, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

● The **dining room** table and chairs are sentimental pieces and were incorporated into the new decor scheme. Shutters which replaced facebrick columns separate this room from the main living room. ● The stylish **kitchen**, by Crestwood, opens on to the dining room and casual living room. Kelsey and Bruce highlighted the peninsular unit by painting it a different colour to the rest of the cabinetry. The tiles are from Select A Tile and the pendant lights from Block & Chisel.



BEFORE

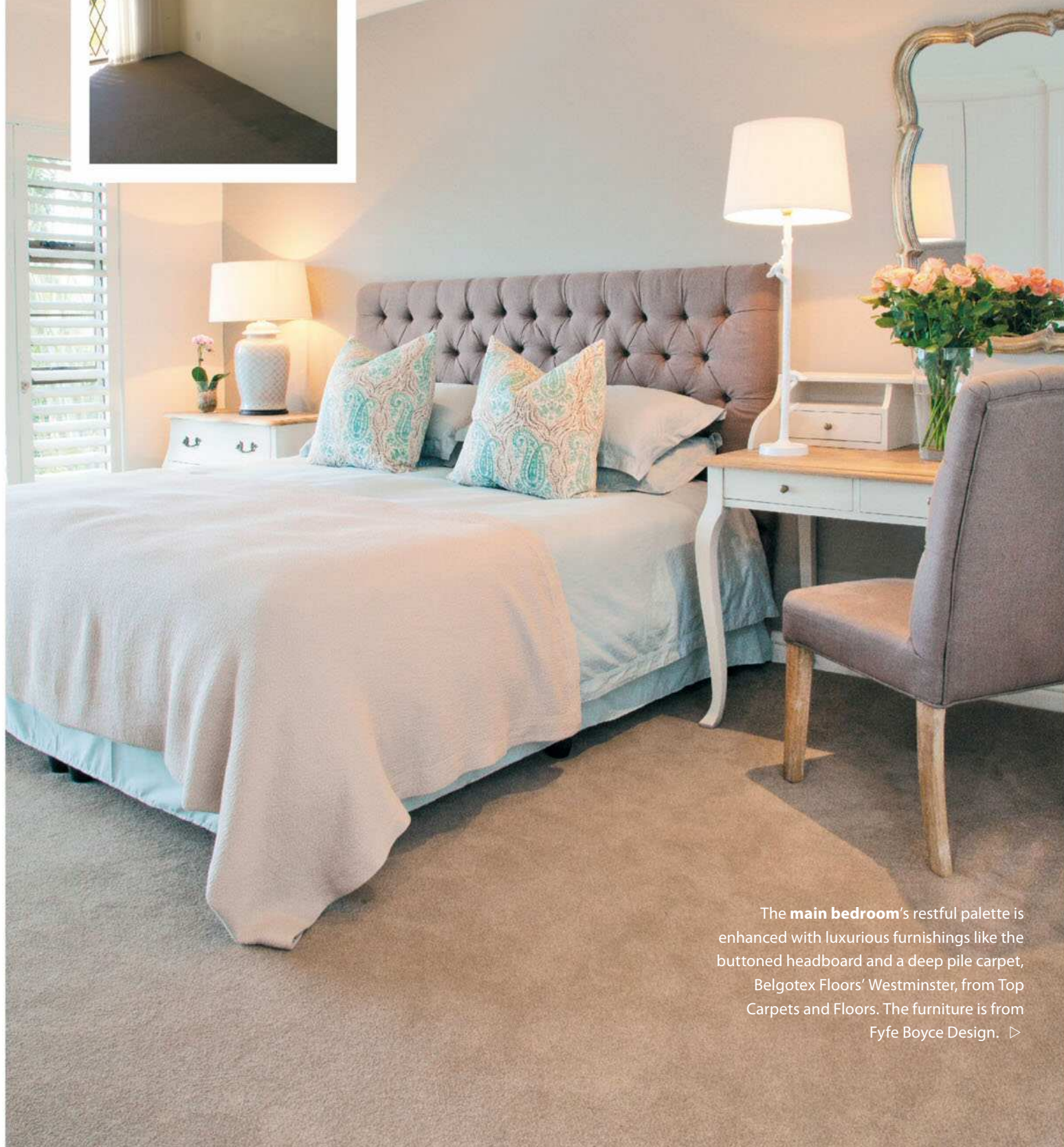


BEFORE

BEFORE



To see more classic bedrooms visit our online image gallery gardenandhome.co.za



The **main bedroom's** restful palette is enhanced with luxurious furnishings like the buttoned headboard and a deep pile carpet, Belgotex Floors' Westminster, from Top Carpets and Floors. The furniture is from Fyfe Boyce Design. ➤



THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ●“Our **bathroom** makes us feel as though we’re staying in a five-star hotel,” says Leigh. The bath and freestanding mixer are from Richmond Plumbing & Sanitaryware. ●The double vanity in the main **bathroom** was made by Crestwood and has plenty of storage space.



Get the look

Choose a striking, unusual mirror to make a bold statement in your bathroom 



Mantle mirror, R4 995, Block & Chisel.



Mirror with shelf, R850, Vintage Vista.



Gold Rays 86cm mirror, R799,99, Mr Price Home.



Sunburst 101cm mirror, R999,99, Mr Price Home.



Reclaimed pine imported mirror R8 500, SHF.



Salvaged wood mirror, R3 000, SHF.

SOURCES Belgotex Floors belgotexfloors.co.za Block & Chisel blockandchisel.co.za Cécile & Boyd cecileandboyds.com Crestwood crestwoodkitchens.co.za Fyfe Boyce Design fyfeboyce.co.za Hertex hertex.co.za Mr Price Home mrphome.com Richmond Plumbing & Sanitaryware richmondgroup.co.za Select A Tile 031 705 1603 SHF shf.co.za Steve Wells stwells@mweb.co.za St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za Top Carpets and Floors topcarpets.co.za Vintage Vista vintagevista.co.za Weylandts weylandts.co.za

colour and fabric trends

Dreaming IN COLOUR

Before redecorating your home, check out this season's hottest fabric colours and combinations



Sofa, scatters and lamp, DDL; rug, Husky Design; coloured vases, Cougar Imports; white vases, Weylandts; sofa and scatters covered in Velvet Couture; Designers Guild Palasini Aquarelle wallpaper, Designers Guild Indupala Cobalt chevron curtain, and Designers Guild floral scatter, all Home Fabrics. Shot on location at Home Fabrics, Kramerville.

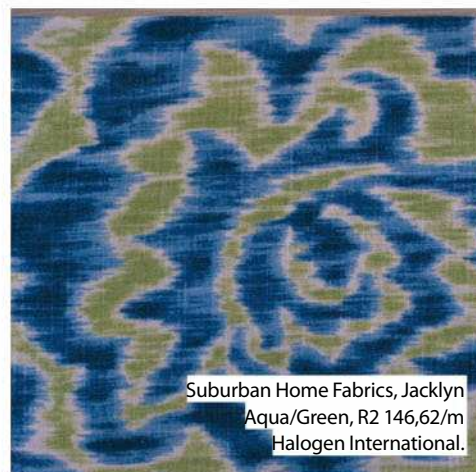
TEXT AND PRODUCTION KARIEN SLABBERT AND CATHERINE ZACHARIOU ASSISTED BY MANDY BUCHHOLZ
PHOTOGRAPHS CHRISTOPH HOFFMANN ANDREA CALDWELL AND HENRIQUE WILDING ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT.
PRODUCTS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND PRICES WERE CHECKED AT TIME OF GOING TO PRINT. SEE PAGE 6.



Eijffinger, Tribute (341374), R1 270/m, Dreamweaver Studios.



Suburban Home Fabrics, Concorde Aqua/Green, R1 993,70/m, Halogen International.



Suburban Home Fabrics, Jacklyn Aqua/Green, R2 146,62/m, Halogen International.

Teal

THE COLOUR

"While it has the strength to stand alone, teal also works with a variety of colours to produce unique results," says Marc Shotland, group PR and marketing executive at Home Fabrics.



THE LOOK

"When mixed with jewel-like colours, teal gives an opulent look," says Marc. "Here, we layered a sofa with teal, turquoise, grey and navy velvet scatters, while a single floral cushion makes the scheme pop. The embossed indigo wallcovering is a strong focal point, but instead of toning it down, we added lime, aubergine and chevron drapes to create a theatrical look," says Marc.

WHERE TO USE IT

"It works in any space from a fun playroom to a formal lounge. Depending on how the colour is used, it can either be traditional or funky and quirky," he notes.

ALSO PAIR IT WITH

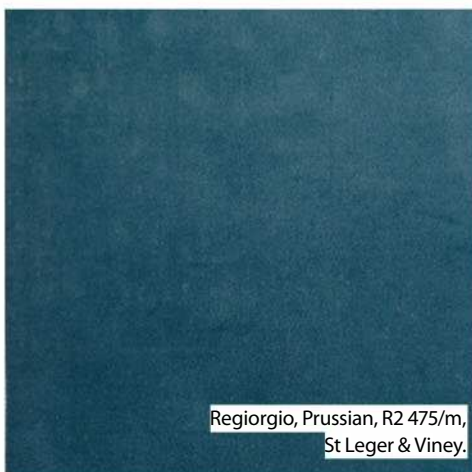
Teal is a great feature colour in a neutral room, says Marc. "Mixing it with whites and beiges brings another dimension to an otherwise ordinary scheme." ▸



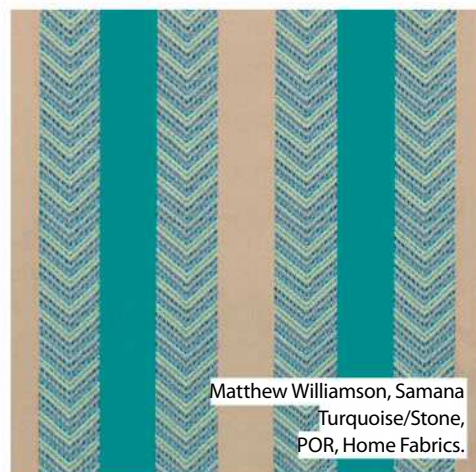
Retrospective, Meditate Celestial, R843,60/m, Hertex.



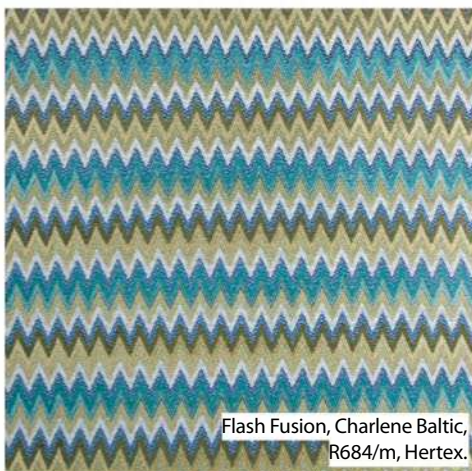
Fougere Wallcoverings, Mandela Viridian* (W357), R1 575/roll, Romo South Africa.



Regiorgio, Prussian, R2 475/m, St Leger & Viney.



Matthew Williamson, Samana Turquoise/Stone, POR, Home Fabrics.



Flash Fusion, Charlene Baltic, R684/m, Hertex.



Tremont, Kendal Teal, R1 625/m, Romo South Africa.

SOURCES Cougar Imports 011 262 4592

DDL (Design & Decor Lab) 011 262 5225

Dreamweaver Studios 011 262 4946

Halogen International halogen.co.za

Hertex hertex.co.za Home Fabrics

hf.co.za Husky Design 011 444 3370

Romo South Africa romosouthafrica.com

St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za

Weylandts weylandts.co.za



Scatter covered in Sanderson's Woodford Plaid fabric in Burnt Orange, Garrett leather sheepskin and leather on chair, all St Leger & Viney; side table and tote bag, both Melvill & Moon; traditional washed-out blue carpet, YC Carpets; the wall is painted in Dulux Gypsy Bloom. Shot on location at St Leger & Viney, Kramerville.



Sporting Life, Bazaar,
POR, Hertex.



Eijffinger, Charm
(331201), R1 320/m,
Dreamweaver Studios.



Madigan, Chaumont
Rhubarb, R1 625/m, Romo
South Africa.

Marsala

THE COLOUR

“With its red-brown roots and burnished undertones, Marsala, Pantone’s 2015 colour of the year, can represent raw nature or glamour and luxury, depending on how you use it,” says Gabrielle Dyer, marketing coordinator at St Leger and Viney.



Eijffinger, Oriental*
R2 075/roll,
Dreamweaver Studios.



Ian Sanderson, Panne
Cranberry, R2 553,60/m,
The Silk & Cotton Co.

THE LOOK

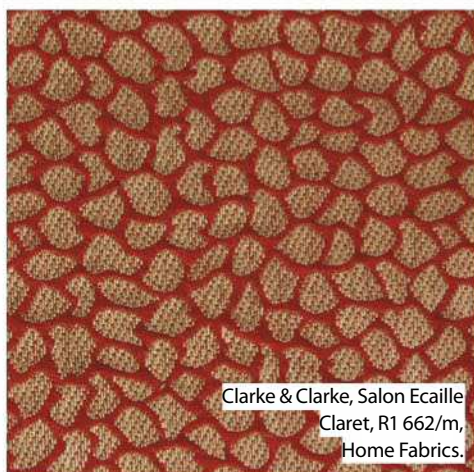
In this reading nook, marsala enhances the chocolate brown tone of a vintage studded armchair. “We kept things casual by mixing a scatter covered in English country plaid and a lambskin throw. A safari-style table, copper anglepoise floorlamp and a textured rug round off the look,” says Gabrielle.

WHERE TO USE IT

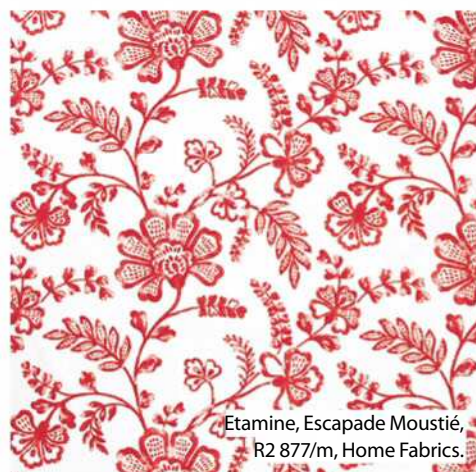
“Use in a bedroom or a living room, either as a pop of rich colour or to make a bold statement,” recommends Gabrielle.

ALSO PAIR IT WITH

“Pair it with shades of burnt orange or copper blush (Dulux colour of the year). Use light cream or green to create contrast,” suggests Gabrielle. ▸



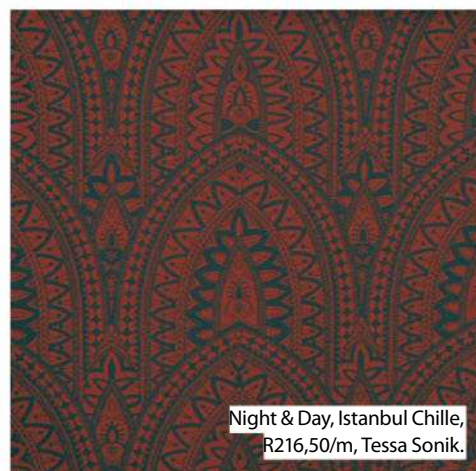
Clarke & Clarke, Salon Ecaillé
Claret, R1 662/m,
Home Fabrics.



Etamine, Escapade Moustié,
R2 877/m, Home Fabrics.



Clarke & Clarke, Artiste Ersilia Chintz,
R1 381/m, Home Fabrics.



Night & Day, Istanbul Chille,
R216,50/m, Tessa Sonik.

SOURCES Dreamweaver Studios

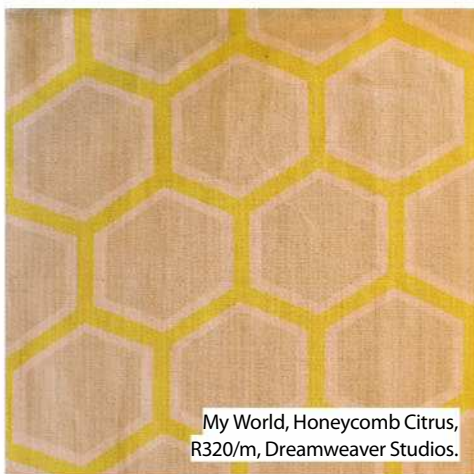
011 262 4592 **Dulux** dulux.co.za **Hertex** hertex.co.za **Home Fabrics** hf.co.za **Melvill & Moon** melvillandmoon.com **Romo South Africa** romosouthafrica.com **St Leger & Viney** stleger.co.za **Tessa Sonik** tessasonik.co.za **The Silk & Cotton Co.** silkco.co.za **YC Carpets** 011 262 2760



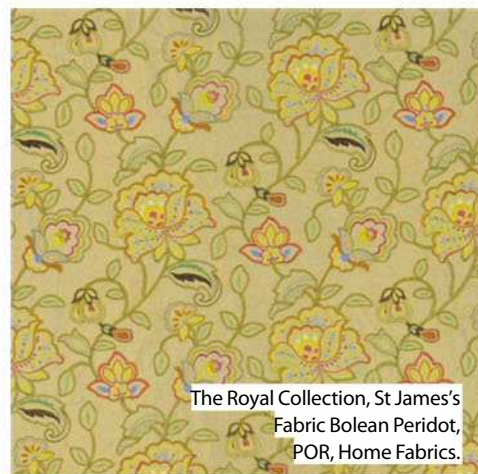
Pencil-leg coffee table, R2 995, resin horns, from R295,
Hollywood floor lamp, R7 995, all Weylandts; scatter
cushions, fabrics, carpet, wallpaper and throw, all Hertex.
Shot on Location at Hertex, Cape Town.



Eijffinger, Muse (331504),
R1 365/m, Dreamweaver Studios.



My World, Honeycomb Citrus,
R320/m, Dreamweaver Studios.



The Royal Collection, St James's
Fabric Bolean Peridot,
POR, Home Fabrics.

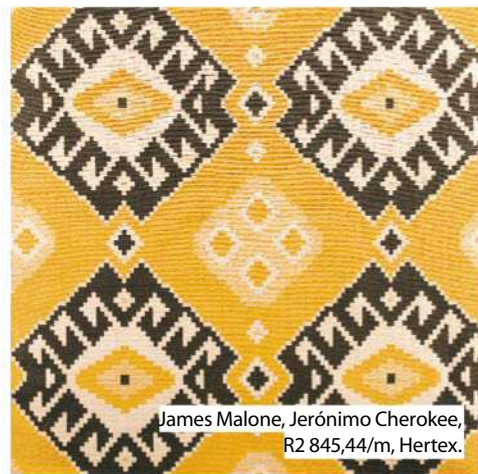
Honey

THE COLOUR

"While yellow is very trendy, it can be too bright for some rooms. Instead, mix honey-coloured accessories with neutral shades and pattern to create a rich, layered look," says Katrin Herrmann-Van Dyk, sales director at Hertex.



Free Love, Hot Stone,
R890/m, Hertex.



James Malone, Jerónimo Cherokee,
R2 845,44/m, Hertex.


THE LOOK

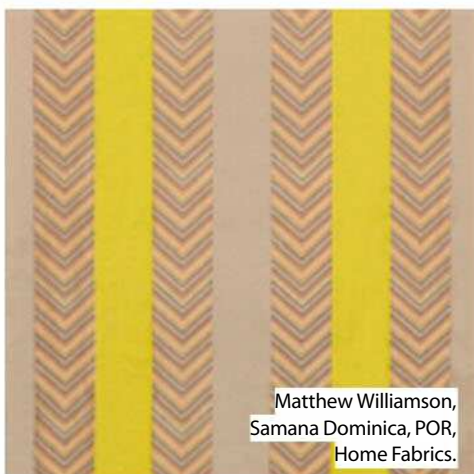
Honey blends beautifully with the textures and colours in this living room. "Playful patterns found in the scatter cushions and wall treatments lend a modern feel, while hints of white keep it looking fresh. A sisal rug subtly complements the palette," says Katrin.

WHERE TO USE IT

"Rather than decorating an entire space with honey, introduce it gently by painting a feature wall or adding small decor accents," Katrin suggests.

ALSO PAIR IT WITH

"Introduce honey to a neutral, grey room for timeless appeal. Mix with navy for a more formal look, with white for a crisp combo or with lime for a casual setting," says Katrin. 



Matthew Williamson,
Samana Dominica, POR,
Home Fabrics.



York, DN3736*, R1 700/roll,
Home Fabrics.



Fougere, Laurus Acacia
(W359)*, R1 575/roll,
Romo South Africa.



Intrigue, Mirage Saffron,
R408/m, St Leger & Viney.

SOURCES Dreamweaver Studios

011 262 4592 Hertex hertex.co.za Home

Fabrics hf.co.za Romo South Africa

romosouthafrica.com St Leger & Viney

stleger.co.za Weylandts weylandts.co.za

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Think big to go small



Bjorn Hanssen and Anne Schaffer

Building a new pool in the old one was just one of the steps this Durban couple took to rejuvenate their outdoor living area

THE PROBLEM

"The patio and pool, essentially the entrance to our home and the first impression guests get, were not only unattractive but also impractical. The patio was so small as to be almost unusable, and the pool was old and out of proportion to the size of the property," says Anne Schaffer of the Durban home she shares with her partner Bjorn Hanssen. "Being sunken and poorly linked to the patio, it was rarely used."

TEXT ANNE SCHAFFER
PHOTOGRAPHS SALLY CHANCE

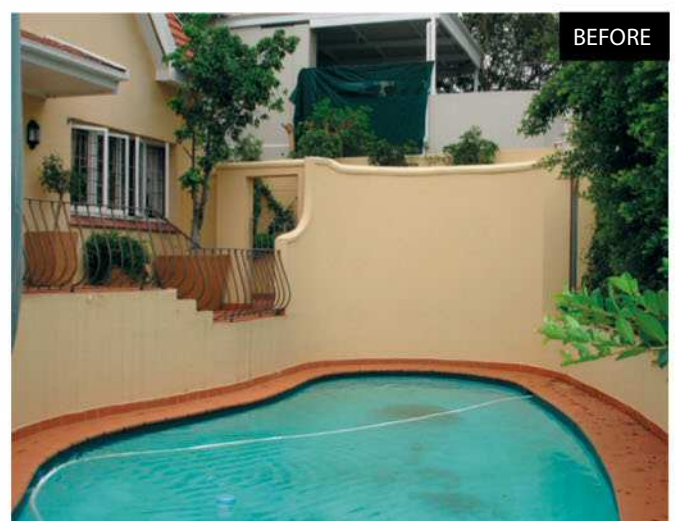


The pool, patio and lawn are now in proportion to the size of the property and three full-size trees screen the neighbours.

But the cherry on the top was when their neighbours added a large veranda overlooking this entire area, meaning Anne and Bjorn needed to gain some space in which to plant trees for privacy.

THE SOLUTION

“We ascertained what was physically possible, and were advised by Peter Shedlock of Swimming Pool Services to build a small pool within our existing one, rather than demolishing the original,” recalls Anne. “Our brief to Umhlanga architect Torbjorn Hanssen of U2 Design Lab included a far smaller pool, bigger patio, straight lines rather than the curves and increasing the width of the narrow driveway.” ▷



BEFORE



DURING



The original pool wall was largely broken up, so the proposed trees' roots would not end up waterlogged and a new pool structure was built within the old pool cavity. They chose an unvarnished garapa decking to surround the pool rather than a combination of tiles and decking. "The decking was expensive, but we haven't regretted it for a second – velvety on the feet, non slip, and largely maintenance free." The wall separating the parking area was demolished so a little extra space was gained. A wire fence was installed over which *Senecio macroglossus* was trained and three fully grown *Terminalia catappa* trees were planted for screening. "Now the area is used frequently and looks good. The smaller pool is easy to keep clean, and is just so much prettier all year round. The trees, too, not only screen the property, but provide something lovely to look at even when sitting inside," says Anne. ▷

THIS PAGE, LEFT TO RIGHT: ● Raising the pool and surroundings to the level of the house created a spacious entertaining area. ● The large leaves of these trees provide plenty of shade for sundowners or casual meals.

SOURCES Swimming Pool Services 031 579 4383
U2 Design Lab 031 566 5750 or u2designlab.co.za



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BEFORE



Richard and Malieta Nieradko

A summer place

This enterprising couple transformed an empty slab off their holiday home on the KZN coast into a cosy covered patio

THE PROBLEM

“As this is our holiday home we wanted to be able to sit outside, cook, relax and enjoy the views,” explain Richard and Malieta Nieradko. “But as the outdoor living area was just a slab without a roof or shelter to provide some shade, it was impossible. Plus there was no easy access from the house.”



THE SOLUTION

To create a roof for the slab, the Nieradkos decided to build a master bedroom suite above it. “We originally thought that we could use the existing pillars but the engineer we consulted recommended demolishing them, the ring beam and the back wall and rebuilding them so it ended up being a much bigger undertaking than we initially expected.”

They went ahead and constructed the new supports and a wall on the south side to keep out the worst of the weather. This wall now houses a built-in braai and chimney. “We included an extractor with a rear exit into the chimney as well as a fan so that the patio doesn’t fill with smoke when we’re cooking,” they add. A generous

counter which is fitted with a prep bowl provides plenty of space for preparing and serving meals. To create a better flow from the interior, they replaced the small windows with a large sliding door and built shallow steps to connect the living area to the new patio.

“Even if the weather is bad, the wall on the south side protects us from the wind and rain so we can use this area all the time.” ▸

THIS SPREAD, LEFT TO RIGHT: ● Malieta, who is a decorator, has given the patio a breezy, holiday feel with accessories in red and blue. ● The rug, from Hertex, is for outdoor use and perfect for a patio.

SOURCES Hertex hertex.co.za Malieta Nieradko 082 371 9797



BEFORE



Martin and Sue Harris

Timeless appeal

Updating a period home can present quite a challenge, but Jo'burg brother and sister decorating team Martin and Sue Harris managed to maintain the old-world character of this living room while bringing it bang up to date

THE PROBLEM

"Our living room had beautiful pressed ceilings and wooden floors but overall it was rather drab," recalls Sue Harris of Martin Harris Interiors. "The existing furniture didn't do it justice at all. Our aim was to create an elegant, sophisticated room with a contemporary feel where we could relax and entertain both friends and clients."

THE SOLUTION

The first thing the pair did was paint the walls in Dulux's Ascot Blue and the cornices, skirtings and doors in crisp white. "It's amazing how something as simple as this brought the room to life and made the pressed ceilings stand out," says Martin.



When furnishing the room, they had in mind a stylish combination of old and new. The fireplace in the corner meant that they had to carefully consider where to place the seating. “We decided on a contemporary corner sofa facing the fireplace to optimise seating space and anchor the room and balanced it with a classic deep-buttoned sofa opposite,” >

THIS SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT: ● Ample, comfortable seating has been provided by a deep-buttoned sofa from Griffiths & Griffiths featuring Bistro Linen from Hertex and a corner sofa from Sit & Co. in Highland from U&G Fabrics. ● The chevron scatter cushions are made up in Ziggy Navy from Black Fabrics. ● The coffee table is from Block & Chisel and the wooden side table was a gift from Zimbabwe.





says Martin. They then introduced side tables in different styles to add interest. One feature Sue and Martin didn't change was the built-in wooden unit. "Once we'd painted the walls, we liked the way it reflected the warmth of the floors," says Sue. Now filled with art and accessories it makes a strong feature.

A taupe-coloured fibre rug from Sit & Co. defines the sitting area and adds comfort. Scatter cushions in a mix of patterns including chevrons and ikats complete the room.

"The space has turned out just as we imagined," says Martin. "It reflects our love for both contemporary and classical design in a way that is both stylish and relaxed." ▸

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ● A contemporary standing lamp partners successfully with a classical side table. ● The scatter cushions by Sit & Co. are made up in Hertex's Oshima. ● The rustic metal wire side table from Amatuli adds another aesthetic layer to the space.

SOURCES Amatuli amatuli.co.za Black Fabrics blackfabrics.co.za
Block & Chisel blockandchisel.co.za Dulux dulux.co.za
Griffiths & Griffiths griffithsandgriffiths.co.za Hertex hertex.co.za
Martin Harris Interiors martinharrisinteriors.co.za
Sit & Co. sitandco.com U&G Fabrics ugfabrics.com



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Churchill - From: R6595 (fabric) R 11,495 (leather)

Caribbean cnr



From: R10,995 (fabric)
Size from: 300x150x80

Boston



From: R5995 (fabric), R10,995 (leather)
Size from: 215x100x85

New Yorker



From: R12,995 (fabric), R23,995 (leather)
Size from: 300x150x80

Bellini



From: R5595 (fabric), R10,995 (leather)
Size from: 185x98x80

Winchester



From: R10,595 (fabric), R17,995 (leather)
Size from: 135x105x75

Caribbean



From: R4995 (fabric)
Size from: 170x90x80

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Price: R13,995 (Solid Oak)
Size: 245x100x76

Kylie Dining



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(Solid Oak frame & 100%
Linen upholstery)

Crossback Dining



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TEXT CANDICE BOTHA PHOTOGRAPHS SALLY CHANCE



Heart of the home

Thanks to a leak, an old-fashioned, dated kitchen has become the favourite room in this KZN Midlands home

THE PROBLEM

"It was rather tired with old melamine chipboard units," say Anke and Ron Küsel of the kitchen in their Wartburg, KZN home. "Although it was functional, it wasn't welcoming."

THE SOLUTION

But it was a leak from the dishwasher that caused the chipboard in one cabinet to swell and rot that galvanised them into action. To replace the damaged cabinet, the floor had to be levelled, which meant that it had to be retiled. This in turn meant that all the units had to be removed which gave them the opportunity to give the room a brand new look.

"The kitchen has four doors and two windows which makes it difficult to accommodate cabinetry. Free-standing units from Milestone Kitchens proved to be the answer. We could select the items that would fit into the available space and had a few units custom made," explains Anke. Another advantage of units with feet or castors is that they're easy to move for cleaning and repairs.

"While paging through magazines I saw a kitchen painted in Dulux Dusted Moss and this colour turned out to be perfect. It's neutral enough to blend with other colours but isn't bland and boring."



BEFORE

Silvia Miles, owner of Milestone Kitchens agrees, adding that what also makes this kitchen unique is that Anke and Ron were keen to take a few risks. "For example they chose an unusual combination of dark ash and white Caesarstone tops."

As it warms the whole house in winter the wood-burning stove had to stay so the Kusels incorporated a bench on one side for thawing out on cold nights. "Before, we seldom spent time in here. Now it's the heart of our home," says Anke. >

OPPOSITE PAGE: Anke Küsel and her dogs Zoey and Emma. The combination of white Caesarstone and dark ash countertops gives this kitchen a unique personality. The cabinets were painted with Dulux Dusted Moss. **THIS PAGE, TOP LEFT TO RIGHT:**

- Choosing units on castors makes cleaning and repairs a breeze.
- The new island is smaller than the original to create more space and a better flow around it. "However it's still big enough for us all to sit around," says Anke.

SOURCES Dulux dulux.co.za Milestone Kitchens milestonekitchens.co.za





A fresh approach

Tiring of its style, interior decorator Susan Hughes decided that a new fresh look was just what her guest room needed

THE PROBLEM

"The guest bedroom was originally decorated in a very glamorous style with Chinoiserie-inspired wallpaper and silk taffeta curtains. At the time I loved it, but after six years it felt dark and heavy and I wanted something fresh and light," explains Johannesburg interior decorator Susan Hughes.

THE SOLUTION

The inspiration for the room's palette came from a fabric, Pheasant Emerald from Home Fabrics. "It reminded me of one of the ranges of Burleighware I sell called Regal Peacock and I decided to use it on a slipcover for an existing headboard," says Susan. To offset the headboard Susan chose green and white trellis wallpaper and painted the other walls Perfect Aqua from her signature paint range. "Creating a feature wall with wallpaper has added another layer of pattern and interest to this room," she says.

To keep the costs down the curtains were made up in an inexpensive off-white fabric with a simple pencil pleat heading.



Susan Hughes



A fun touch was added by trimming the tops of the curtains with a small strip of green linen and the leading edge with green pompons. Scatter cushions featuring a delicate leaf pattern and a contrasting contemporary chevron echo the colours of the headboard. To complete the look, Susan had lampshades made in a fabric that complements the wallpaper. "A custom-made lampshade is one of the easiest ways to give a room a unique look," she says.

"What I love about it now is that it has a bright, cheerful look that's right up to date without compromising the classical, elegant feel of the rest of the house," says Susan. ▷

OPPOSITE PAGE: The scheme was inspired by the fabric on the headboard, Pheasant Emerald from Home Fabrics. The scatter cushions are made up in Melati Citrus and Limitless Azure from St Leger & Viney. The curtains in Wolfe Street Fabrics' New Katazi Latte are edged in Urban Linen Lettuce from St Leger & Viney and fringed with pompons in Kiwi from The House of Passementerie.

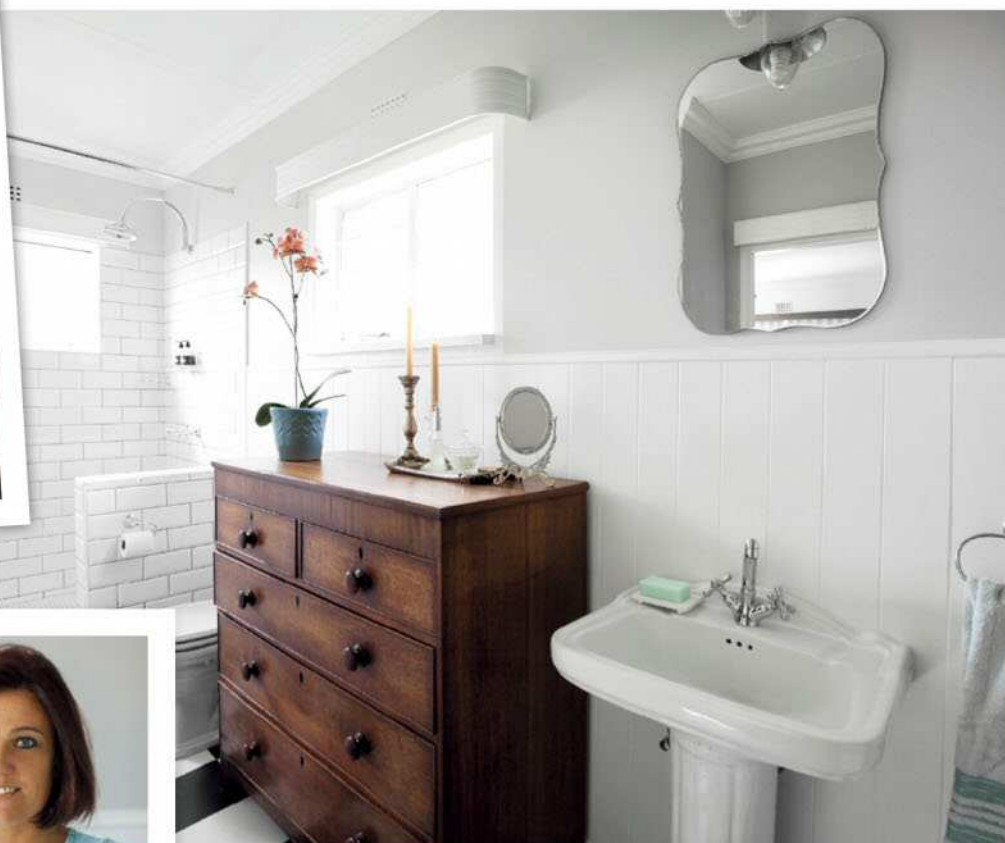
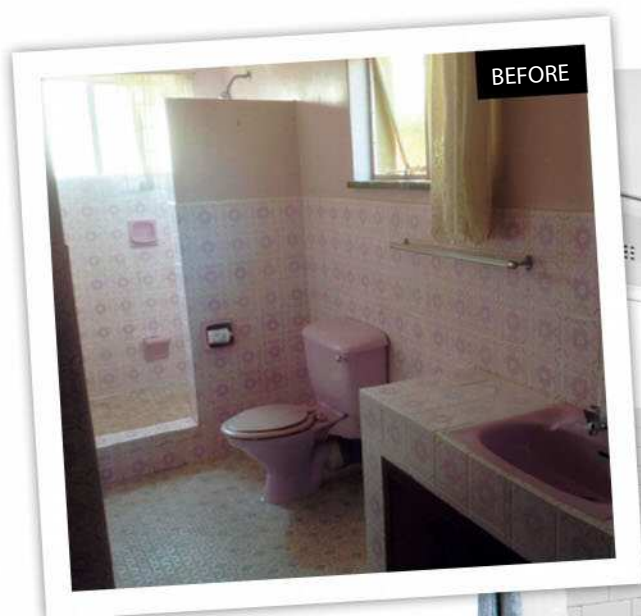
THIS PAGE, LEFT TO RIGHT: ● Susan's collection of hat boxes look decorative displayed on shelves. ● Instead of a painting, Susan mounted a collection of Burleighware plates on the wall which features Waverly's Buzzing About wallpaper from Home Fabrics.

SOURCES Home Fabrics hf.co.za House of Passementerie passementerie.co.za St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za Susan Hughes Interiors 011 788 4404 or 083 255 3008 Wolfe Street Fabrics wolfstreet.co.za



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An elegant revival

After four decades with a lilac colour scheme this Johannesburg bathroom begged for an update

THE PROBLEM

“Clad top to bottom with lilac floral tiles with matching mosaics on the floor, the bathroom looked as though it was stuck in the ‘70s,” says PR consultant Natalie Madies. “And just to be sure everything matched, all the sanitaryware was lilac too, from the bath to the soap holder. Plus there was nowhere to hang anything, so towels and clothing were forever draped over the bathroom door and the surfaces were cluttered with toiletries.”




Natalie Madies

THE SOLUTION

With a fresh Victorian-inspired scheme as their goal, Natalie and her husband Stefano tackled the renovation themselves. The first to go were the tiles. “We actually delighted in chipping them off even though it was hard work and took us a whole week,” says Natalie. Then they dealt with the fittings. “The bath was surrounded by so much hardened foam infill that at one stage we considered dynamite,” she laughs.

As the shower wall blocked essential light, they lowered it to waist height. “Instead of a glass door, we hung a custom-made shower curtain which has proved very practical as it hides the sports gear we leave to dry on the rail behind it.” Toiletries are hidden on a shelf they mounted behind the shower wall.

In keeping with Victorian style, the Madieses clad the lower sections of the walls with tongue-and-groove panelling and used bevelled metro tiles in the shower. A romantic ball and claw bath replaced the built-in original and an elegant pedestal basin the bulky vanity. “These freestanding features combined with all the light that now streams in make this room seem so much bigger,” says Natalie.

The additional space they gained enabled them to introduce an antique chest of drawers that Stefano found in Durban which provides extra storage space and gives the bathroom a furnished look. The final touch was the classic black and white checkerboard vinyl flooring which they laid over the existing tiles using a self-levelling screed. 

THIS PAGE, ABOVE: The shower is clad in metro tiles from Italtile. Natalie bought the pedestal basin from Classic Trading in Durban. The walls feature Plascon’s Off-shore.

OPPOSITE PAGE: The bath is from CTM, the mixer by Tivoli is from Bathroom Bizarre and the wall light is from The Lighting Warehouse. The vinyl flooring is Toledo Modena from Belgotex Floors.

SOURCES Bathroom Bizarre bathroom.co.za Belgotex Floors belgotexfloors.co.za Classic Trading classictrading.net CTM ctm.co.za Italtile italtile.co.za Plascon plascon.co.za The Lighting Warehouse lightingwarehouse.co.za



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1. Jacquard honeycomb red scatter, R119,99, Mr Price Home.
2. Eclipse citrus scatter, R575, Vintage Vista.
3. Scatter made up with Casbah in Clay, R477/m, St Leger & Viney.
4. Aussie scatter, R150, Coricraft.
5. Zig Zag scatter, from R220, Zana.
6. Scatter made up with Clarke & Clarke South Beach in Merengue Flamingo, POR, Home Fabrics.
7. Liquorice 02 scatter, R575, Vintage Vista.
8. Matchbox scatter, R575, Vintage Vista.
9. Mustard scatter, R150, Coricraft.



10. Hippie Square slate scatter, R790, La Grange Interiors.
11. Embroidery rabbit scatter, R299, Woolworths.
12. Scatter made up with Estee in Clay, R477/m, St Leger & Viney.

SOURCES Coricraft coricraft.co.za Home Fabrics homefabrics.co.za La Grange Interiors lagrange.co.za Mr Price Home mrphome.com St Leger & Viney stleger.co.za Vintage Vista vintagevista.co.za Woolworths woolworths.co.za Zana zanaproducts.co.za



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The DIY Theatre sponsored by Black + Decker in association with Easy DIY will be created from two containers stacked on top of each other and be reinforced by recyclable elements like seats made from tyres from where guests can sit and listen to even more inspirational words from some of the DIY worlds leading lights.

The ever popular Chef's Theatre, brought to you by Easylife Kitchens, in association with Whirlpool, South African Chefs Association and Food & Home Entertaining is a place where one can catch much-loved celebrity foodies who will be sampling, demonstrating and sharing secrets on how to create the perfect meal, leaving you with all the passion and knowledge to go home and repeat these in your own kitchen.

And we are proud to announce our feature in the Interiors area, the Grand Tree House sponsored by Belgotex and Duraturf. This two-roomed tree house, towering high above everything else is filled with achievable ideas and solutions for redecorating your home. In collaboration with some of SA's top décor talents, we show you how to use spaces effectively and how to add glamour and beauty innovatively and affordably to make your home amazing from the inside.

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NIP & TUCK

Looking for great ways to rejuvenate your home? Johannesburg interior decorator Joanne Roelofs shares five clever ideas that won't break the bank

1 CLAD ALL OVER

The owners of this TV room wanted a statement wall that would add warmth and texture. "As there was a damp problem there was no way we could use wallpaper," explains Joanne. "We first treated the wall for damp and then used pretreated pine planks to clad one wall and an area around the TV. Planks are readily available from timber yards and the installation was relatively simple. As the cladding needs no further maintenance, it was also a practical solution."

2 MAKING A SPLASH

If your kitchen is lacking a focal point, consider making a feature of the splashback. Here Joanne used sandblasted glass which is both practical and attractive. "If you want to introduce colour or pattern, first apply a vinyl design to the back of the glass," she advises. Installation is quick and easy. "Drill holes into the four corners of the glass, place it in position and mark the holes on the wall. Once the glass is mounted you can cover the screws with chrome caps from a hardware store."



1



For more kitchen ideas visit our website at gardenandhome.co.za

2



GREAT IDEA

Use shutters to make a small window appear larger

3 SHADES OF GREY

Double-volume areas like stairwells can often look bare. Instead of a large expensive chandelier, Joanne cleverly hung a collection of five wire-framed cylindrical lampshades at different heights. "The shades, which are in various sizes, feature different patterns inside and out, making them just as attractive when seen from below," explains Joanne. She then used a group of old distressed doors mounted on the wall as an eye-catching alternative to art. ▷

GREAT IDEA

In a neutral room, use texture like buttoning and quilting to add interest



4 ON THE SURFACE

Although they've been around for a while, paint techniques are still an excellent way to update furniture like this mahogany bedroom suite. Tiring of the all-wood look, the owners of this home wanted a new French style. Instead of buying new furniture, Joanne suggested giving the existing bed and pedestals a washed paint effect. "If your furniture is good then a paint effect makes sense," says Joanne. "What's more, it was done in five days for a fraction of the price of new furniture." Joanne had the headboard deep buttoned to suit the new scheme and chose simple linen that won't date quickly.



5 A FRAME UP

Metal-frame, built-in cupboards are the norm in most homes. However they can look rather dull and boring. To upgrade these in a teenage girl's bedroom, Joanne fitted new spray-painted doors and disguised the metal frame with wooden columns which hide the hinges. Then she added a cross detail at the bottom with Supawood cladding. The addition of a cornice at the top now creates the impression of a stylish armoire. **GH**

SOURCE Joanne Roelofs 082 342 7379



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shopping

Adjustable

Classic



Switched ON

Both functional and good looking, table lamps can instantly change the look and feel of a room



SOURCES Anatomy Design anatomydesign.co.za Coricraft coricraft.co.za K. Light Import klight.co.za Mr Price Home mrphome.com NetDÉcor netdecor.co.za The Lighting Warehouse lightingwarehouse.co.za Vintage Vista vintagevista.co.za Woolworths woolworths.co.za

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GROUND *control*

Nowadays there is a greater than ever selection of beautiful and innovative flooring. Here's the lowdown on five of the latest trends

SALVAGED WOOD FLOORS

Making a statement

Salvaged wood floors like parquet lend a home character that is impossible to recreate with modern products. "Essentially you are installing a new floor with a genuine aged look that will almost certainly increase the value of your home," says Brett Harding, owner of Eco Oak Flooring. "And you're also helping to take the strain off one of the world's diminishing natural resources." As with any hardwood flooring, salvaged floors have excellent acoustic and thermal properties and attract less dust and allergens.

Best for

Salvaged wood flooring is best suited to living spaces and bedrooms. If installing in a pattern such as herringbone, the greater the area you have to work with the more effective the

appearance. Open-plan living and dining areas showcase these floors particularly well.

Good to know

To calculate the square metres required, multiply the length by the breadth of the space and add 10–20% for wastage. Jonathan Bodley of Floors for All says a specialist installer is crucial, as the right installer will ensure a quality finish. Also be aware of the following:

- A completely dry and level subfloor is required.
- Blocks need to acclimatise for between two and three weeks. Stack them in small piles in the room in which they'll be laid. The sides must be free from any bitumen or screed to ensure a neat fit.

Expect to pay

Upwards of R800/m², depending on quality.



VINYL

Making a statement

Vinyl flooring offers a very realistic substitute for wooden floors at a far more affordable price and there are many practical benefits too. "Because they're made from PVC they are so much quieter and warmer," says Helen de Villiers, marketing manager at Belgotex Floors. "They're water resistant and very easy to keep clean. Installation is quick and hassle-free, and protective wear-layers enhance their durability."

Best for

Especially effective in living areas and bedrooms, vinyl can be applied to any area in the home, even bathrooms and kitchens as there is no risk of swelling or lifting.

Good to know

Application of a dry level screed is necessary to protect the vinyl from rising damp. These floors are susceptible to excessive heat and sun exposure which can cause them to expand. "Maintenance is really very easy but we recommend sweeping or vacuuming before giving the floors a light mop to prevent stubborn dirt build-up," advises Mark Wilson of Times Two Flooring.

Expect to pay

For cushioned vinyl tiles that are simply glued down, prices can start at R250/m² including installation but excluding the screed. For luxury vinyl tiles using glue and a tongue-and-groove click mechanism expect to pay between R390 and R500/m². ▸

CORK

Making a statement

Cork is made from the renewable bark of the cork oak tree so it offers a sustainable, environmentally positive flooring solution. In addition to having a unique appearance and a warm, cushion-like feel underfoot, cork is naturally antimicrobial and antibacterial so it's a healthier flooring option too. "Cork's combination of thermal and acoustic insulation, walking comfort and impact resistance makes it one of the most comfortable flooring options for the home," says Melanie Smit, sales consultant at Amorim Cork.

Best for

Thanks to its durability and high resistance to abrasion, cork is suitable for every room in the home. As it's mildew-, rot- and mould-resistant, cork is perfect for bathrooms and other high-humidity spaces.

Good to know

Despite being low maintenance, cork does require proper attention and careful cleaning. Floors should be swept regularly with a soft-bristled broom to remove dirt, and cleaned with a damp mop once a week or as required. Wipe spills immediately.

Expect to pay

From R160/m² excluding installation.



BAMBOO

Making a statement

With the trend towards all things natural and eco-friendly, bamboo flooring continues to gain popularity. "It has the beauty and strength of an authentic hardwood product but is less costly," says Lisa Millin, marketing director at Bamboo Warehouse, adding that it's also very easy to install. Bamboo conserves heat so it's comfortably warm to walk on and naturally resistant to dust mites, mould and allergens.

Best for

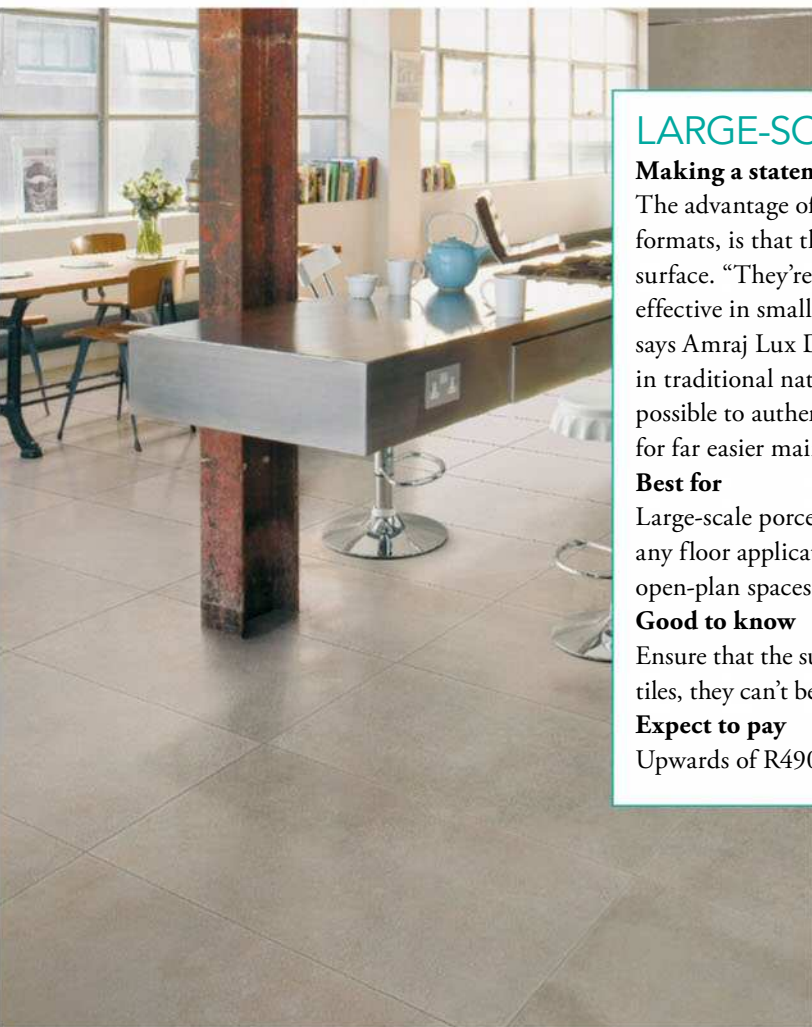
Hard-wearing bamboo floors are ideal for high-traffic areas such as entrances and staircases, and they give warmth to living spaces and bedrooms. Another benefit of using bamboo flooring is that it's hypoallergenic.

Good to know

Depending on how it's produced, bamboo flooring varies in colour and grain. Experienced installers will arrange the planks by colour before laying them. A handy cleaning tip is to lightly spray a solution of spirit vinegar and water on the floor and wipe it with a micro-fibre cloth.

Expect to pay

From R455/m² excluding installation.



LARGE-SCALE TILES

Making a statement

The advantage of large-scale tiles, which are available in either square or rectangular formats, is that they can expand a room visually by offering a virtually seamless surface. "They're particularly well-suited to large spaces but they can be just as effective in smaller areas because there are fewer grout lines to distract the eye," says Amraj Lux Dursan, marketing manager at Italtile. Not only are they available in traditional natural materials such as slate and marble, technology has made it possible to authentically replicate finishes such as wood and screed on porcelain tiles for far easier maintenance and longevity.

Best for

Large-scale porcelain and ceramic tiles are extremely durable and suitable for any floor application. They are most successful used in large, contemporary open-plan spaces.

Good to know

Ensure that the surface is completely flat before laying large-scale tiles. Unlike smaller tiles, they can't be 'bedded up' with adhesive as this will spoil their seamless effect.

Expect to pay

Upwards of R490/m². 

SOURCES Amorim Cork amorimcork.co.za Bamboo Warehouse bamboowarehouse.co.za Belgotex Floors belgotexfloors.co.za Eco Oak Flooring ecooakflooring.co.za Floors For All flooringforall.co.za Italtile italtile.co.za Times Two Flooring timestwoflooring.co.za

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From cosy carpets, to sleek vinyl and low-maintenance artificial grass, Belgotex Floors has been covering surfaces in homes for the last 30 years. Transform your interior instantly with the widest selection of flooring solutions in the hottest colours and styles with up-to-the-minute treatments and super-quick installation.

VINYL VERSIONS

Belgotex Floors provides a staggering array of authentic wood-look vinyls and decorative finishes with three handy installation methods suited to every taste and budget.

Cushioned vinyl comes in a convenient roll that can be easily cut and laid around nooks and crannies in oddly shaped rooms such as laundries and sculleries.

Luxury vinyl tiles or planks (often called LVTs or LVPs) come in dry-back "planks" that are glued down, click-system tongue-and-groove planks that are easily clipped together and the latest self-adhesive pressure-sensitive planks that are simply pressed onto the floor.

Vinyl provides a beautiful, smooth surface that's water-resistant, easy-to-clean and quieter than wood or ceramic. It's ideal for wet areas such as kitchens and bathrooms and can be installed over



existing tiles or floors simply by evening out the surface with a self-levelling screed.

And because it's made from virgin PVC, it won't swell or warp when exposed to water and contains no hazardous impurities that can compromise your family's health.

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Belgotex Floors' range of durable loop-pile carpets add welcoming warmth to the home – ideal for lounges and passages – insulating the floor against cold and providing a safe, slip-proof surface that hides dirt and marks, perfect for growing families with children or grandparents.

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Their ranges have a SilverCare antimicrobial treatment to keep dust mites and bacteria out of your carpet for safe, healthy and comfortable cushioning underfoot.

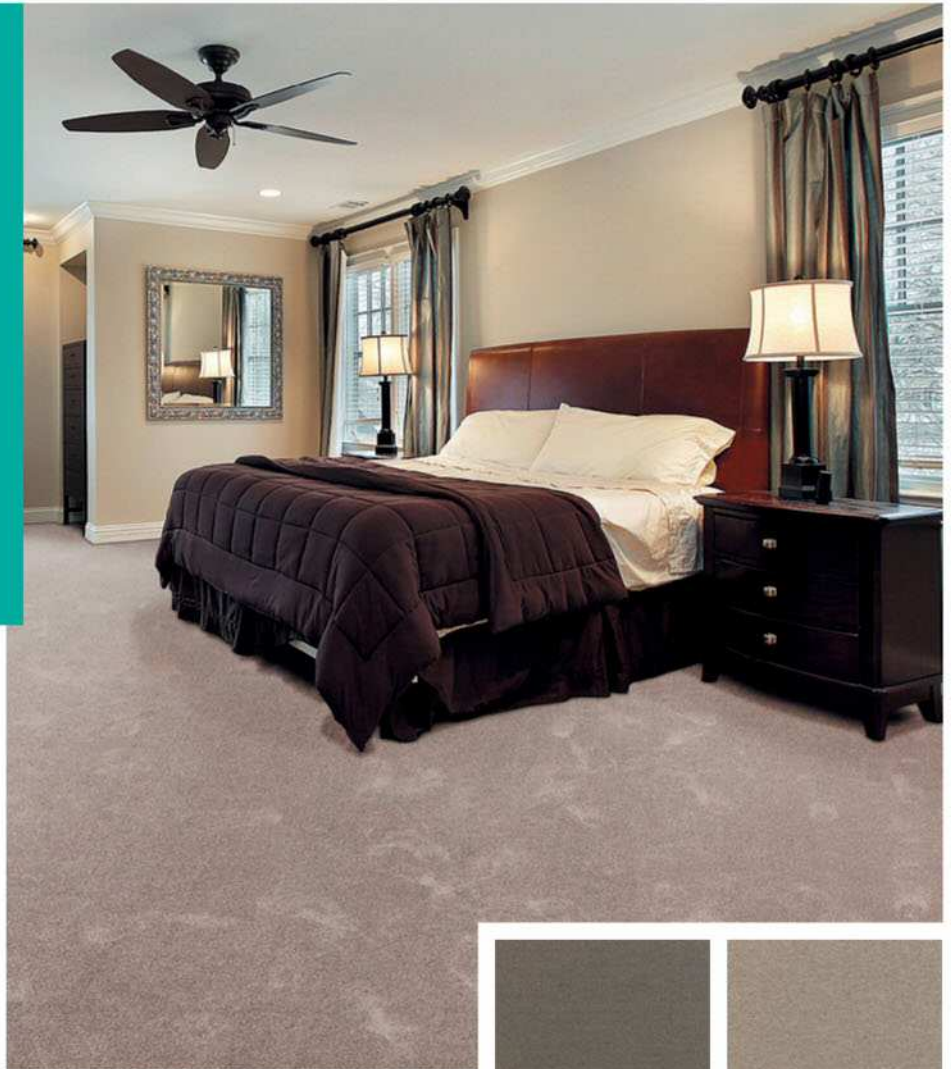
Whatever your flooring preference, Belgotex Floors offers you a world of choice

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DuraTurf artificial lawns from Belgotex Floors ensure your garden, rooftop or veranda will stay evergreen all year round. Eleven natural-looking ranges suitable for landscaped gardens, play areas and to brighten up dull, hard surfaces provide a low-maintenance alternative and add a touch of green to your home.

Brighten up with ColorGrass in six bright, cheerful shades to add fun and adventure – perfect for under jungle gyms or areas where real grass just won't grow.

Portable Leisure Grass in handy 1,5m x 2m rolls provides the ideal outdoor rug to soften picnic spots, camping sites and even beach visits.



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A weaving *tale*

Take an old-fashioned chair from rogue to vogue in a few simple steps



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DIY in a day

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- A chair with a wooden seat frame
- Paint stripper
- Fine- and medium-grain sandpaper
- Sanding block
- Wood filler
- 1 litre high-gloss enamel in your desired colour
- Tracing paper
- Ruler or measuring tape
- Coloured webbing (available from fabric shops)
- Upholstery tacks (two per strip of webbing)


BEFORE



PREPARING THE CHAIR

1. If applicable, remove the seating board and cushion from the chair.
2. Remove the paint with paint stripper if required.
3. Lightly sand the entire chair with the medium-grain sandpaper. Wipe off any dust with a damp cloth.
4. Patch any holes or rough areas with wood filler. Allow to dry and lightly sand.
5. Apply a coat of enamel and allow to dry thoroughly.
6. Sand with fine-grain sandpaper, paying special attention to any drip marks.
7. Repeat previous two steps a couple of times until a high-gloss finish is achieved.

MAKING THE SEAT

1. Trace the interior edges of the seat on a piece of tracing paper and include precise measurements of the sides (as well as the depth from the top of the seat to the support struts) or take your chair to a hardware store that cuts wood and let them measure it for you.
2. Have a 4cm-thick frame cut from balsa wood or hardwood that fits into the seat area.
3. Paint the frame the same colour as your chair.
4. Measure the width and length of your frame and cut strips of webbing allowing for an extra 8cm of webbing on each side (totaling an additional 16cm per strip).
5. Starting with width of the frame, fold the first webbing strip's additional 8cm in half and tack it to the underside of the frame. Use two tacks – one on each edge of the underside of the frame.
6. Stretch the webbing over the frame and pull it as tightly across the frame as possible.
7. Fold over the webbing on the far end and tack it to the underside of the frame, maintaining the tautness.
8. Repeat along the width of the frame, leaving about 1,5cm between the strips.
9. Repeat steps 5–8 along the length of the frame, but now weave the strips over and under the webbing that are forming the warp.
10. Insert the frame into the chair. 

EASTER FEASTING

Layers of loveliness await you in our awesome April issue, on shelf now!

5 IRRESISTIBLE WAYS WITH HOT CROSS BUNS

We put the
'Ooh la la'
into nougat



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the

MIX AND *match*

A playful mix of stripes, botanical prints and intricate patterns make a fun combination that'll spruce up any patio



Dome **pendants**, R399,99 each, Mr Price Home.

Bird print **scatter cushion**, R119,99, Mr Price Home.



Kubu **sofa bed**, R6 900 (excl. cushions), La Grange Interiors.



Chopsticks, Soleil **fabric***, R429/m, Halogen International.

Watercolour, Punch **fabric***, R572/m, Halogen International.

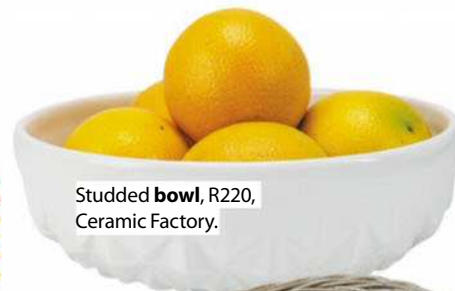
Enchanted Forest, Fruitii **fabric***, R849/m, Halogen International.



Havana round **side table** with woven top, R9 840, Marlanteak.



Glass **candleholder**, R19,99, Boardmans.



Studded **bowl**, R220, Ceramic Factory.



Surabaya **chair**, R1 695, Coricraft.

CREATING A CONTEMPORARY MIX

Cape Town interior designer Zania Grobelaar of Dear Zania Interiors shares her tips on how to create a colourful mix of pattern and print in an outdoor living area:

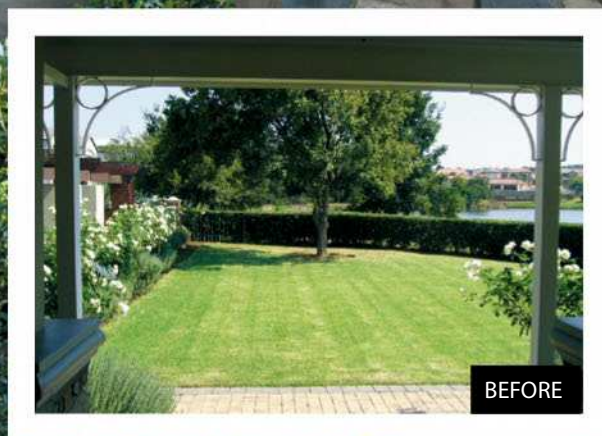


- First decide on a colour scheme. For example, red, orange and pink and then look for patterns with the same intensity of colour.
- For the perfect mix, combine patterns in different scales, for instance a large floral with a small geometric and medium-sized stripe.
- If you're worried about making a mistake, choose a neutral for the larger pieces like sofas and benches and use patterned fabrics for the cushions.
- Highlight the colours you've chosen in your accessories. Look for coloured lanterns or pendant lights and don't forget the vibrant impact that a bowl of lemons or apples can make. **GH**

SOURCES Boardmans boardmans.co.za Ceramic Factory ceramicfactory.co.za Coricraft coricraft.co.za Dear Zania Interiors 082 787 7872 or studio@dearzania.co.za Halogen International halogen.co.za La Grange Interiors lagrangeinteriors.co.za Marlanteak marlanteak.com Mr Price Home mrphome.com

STRUCTURED *Serenity*

This beautiful lakeside property proves that even an awkwardly shaped site can be transformed into a formal classical garden



TEXT NATALIE BORUVKA PHOTOGRAPHS CHRISTOPH HOFFMANN

Who lives here

Retired professionals Willie and Elna Oosthuizen and their Pekingese, Jato.

The house

A formal garden on the edge of a lake in Pretoria anchored by a central water feature and organised into areas of hard landscaping and hedged beds.

When Willie and Elna Oosthuizen bought their home two years ago, all the garden consisted of were two beds planted with 'Iceberg' roses and lavender and a lonesome tree surrounded by a hedge of *Viburnum sinensis*.

However the open lawn presented them with the perfect opportunity to create the formal garden they'd always dreamed of. "Our inspiration came from visiting the castles and chateaux of Europe," explains Willie. "We love the layout of classical gardens and the fact that they're still beautiful in the colder months."

They couldn't have chosen a more enthusiastic landscaper to help them. Yvonne Joao, owner of Jardinier ▷



THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ● The Oosthuizens are able to enjoy their beautiful garden from a number of shady seating areas such as this one with its lake view. ● Originally a carpet of grass the garden now features elegant green enclosures and paved walkways. "We love its new structure and order," says Elna. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** The fountain forms the focal point of the garden and is deep enough to be used as a splash pool.



Landscape Design is passionate about the gardens of the Renaissance era and what she refers to as their magical partnership of structure and romance. Her challenge was to organise the irregularly shaped garden into spaces that would ultimately function as an integrated whole.

“Willie and Elna wanted a beautiful water feature that would also serve as a small plunge pool, so I designed this first, positioning it as the garden’s central point,” she says, explaining that it established axes around which the secondary areas were designed.

At the entrance, a path of flagstones interplanted with ‘Kyoto Dwarf’ mondo grass branches twice before reaching >



THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

LEFT: ● “We wanted a firepit that would blend in with the garden rather than stand as a separate area,” says Willie.

● Symmetry is an important element of the design. ● Rhythm was created with a series of jasmine topiaries set into the hedge. ● Urns were placed on pedestals to make them more prominent.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Wide beds are filled with agapanthus while silver birches provide height.





BEFORE

**“THE BEDS AND
PAVED WALKWAYS
ESTABLISH THE STRONG
LINES THAT GIVE THE
GARDEN STRUCTURE”**

the front door. The first turn leads to the water feature and a secluded sitting area in one corner of the garden. “This is a lovely shady spot for afternoon tea,” says Elna. “The sound of the water is wonderfully soothing, but if we want to get a closer look at the birds, we usually sit on the Lutyens bench overlooking the water feature.”

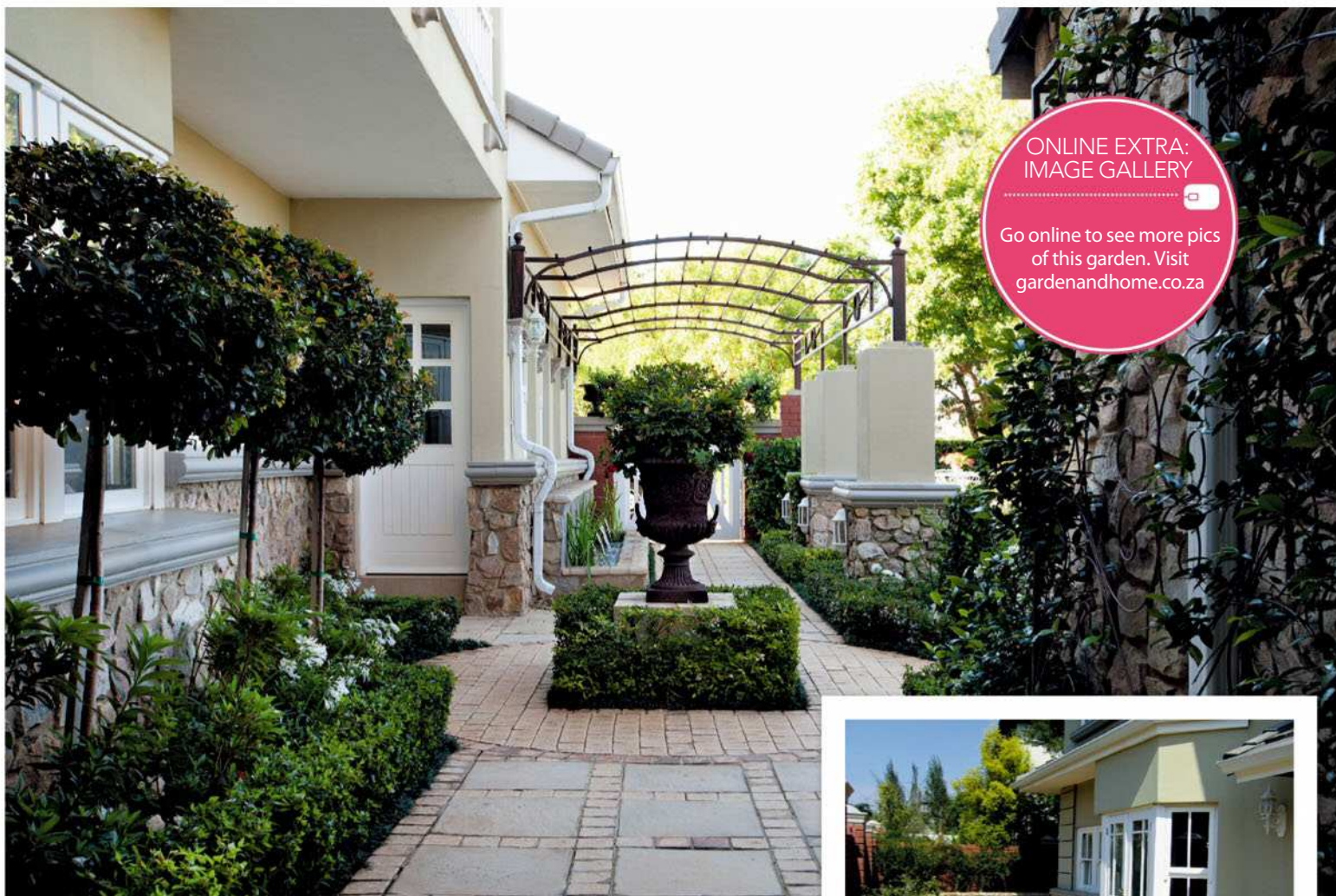
The second turn follows the L-shaped veranda to the firepit in the opposite corner of the garden. Here a woodland atmosphere has been created with groupings of silver birches and soft perennials in beds hedged with *Abelia grandiflora*. “The beds work with the paved walkways to establish the strong lines that give this garden its structure,” explains Yvonne.

To soften the bold, formal framework, the beds were planted mainly with ‘Iceberg’ roses and white agapanthus. “We wanted to avoid too much colour which we felt would detract from the layout,” says Elna, “but every year we introduce small bursts of subtle colour depending on the perennials Yvonne



THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

LEFT: ● In contrast to the green and white theme of the main garden, a profusion of colourful flowering plants lines the driveway. ● A Lutyens-style bench makes a comfortable spot next to the water feature. ● A pretty water feature welcomes visitors at the entrance.



ONLINE EXTRA:
IMAGE GALLERY

Go online to see more pics
of this garden. Visit
gardenandhome.co.za

THIS PAGE: Yvonne linked the house to the garden by bordering it with hedges and adding water features against the exterior walls.



BEFORE

African daisies merging in a riot of purple, pink and orange. "In estates, driveways are often visible so we felt it was important to pay this area as much attention as the main garden," says Willie.

The Oosthuizen's garden is filled with a variety of ornamental features which emphasise its classical nature. Symmetry on either side of the pool was achieved with two cast-iron urns on plinths while rhythm is created by obelisks planted with star jasmine placed at intervals along the low-growing hedges. At almost every turn there's a focal point in the form of a water feature or a decorative element.

"It's a relatively small garden but it's filled with visual interest," says Elna. "And because it's been separated into different, structured areas it appears much larger." GH

and I choose." This year it was a red accent in the form of begonias and petunias. In the stretch of garden that borders the driveway, the approach to colour is a little more relaxed with agapanthus, alyssum, foxgloves and

SOURCE Jardinier Landscape Design 083 400 8661 or yvonne.joao@gmail.com



Tulip mania RETURNS

Originally from Turkey, the sensuous tulip has captivated the world since its arrival in Holland in the 16th century. Now new varieties are available here in South Africa

Over 25 000 flowers and 100 tulip varieties make a spectacular show at Pashley Manor Gardens in the UK, which hosts a tulip festival every spring.

As they do best in cold climates, tulips are not often grown here in warmer South Africa. This has been frustrating for gardeners who've admired the drifts of tulips in gardens like Keukenhof in Holland and Pashley Manor Gardens in the UK. However new hybrids are being developed all the time and fortunately some more suited to our climate are now available locally.

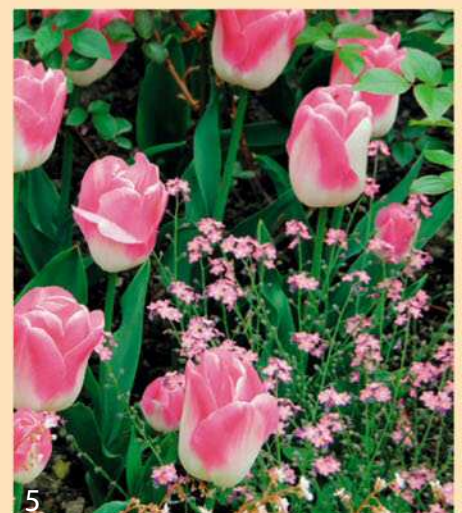
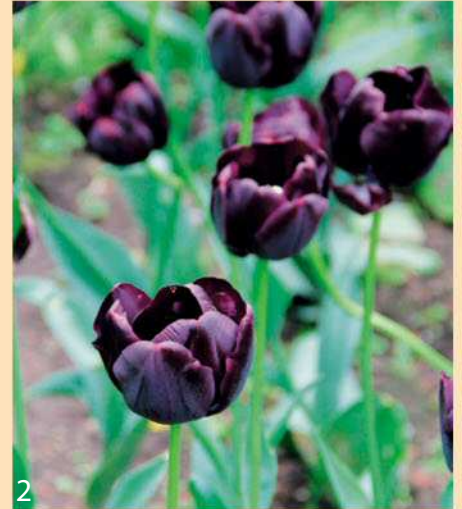
GROWING TIPS

"There's a definite art to growing tulips," says local bulb expert and author, Charles Barnhoorn of Hadeo. This is what he recommends:

- Tulips love cool soil so plant only when temperatures have dropped. Untreated tulips can be planted from March to May, while treated tulips should be planted in early June.
- Find a spot that has morning sun but is protected from hot afternoon rays.
- Tulips do well in containers but first place the container in a cool dark spot. When the leaves begin to show above the soil, move it into a position with morning sun and afternoon shade.
- Although tulips love moist soil they need good drainage. Add sand to improve this and mix in compost to increase moisture retention.
- Plant bulbs with the pointed end facing upwards and cover them with 5cm of soil. It's vital to cover this with an additional 2cm layer of compost mulch as this helps to regulate both the temperature and the moisture content of the soil.
- After planting, water bulbs deeply and repeat this every three to four days. Never let the soil dry out at root level.
- There's a choice of both regular bulbs and treated bulbs. Treated bulbs have been placed in cold rooms and are programmed to flower earlier and more reliably. They're more tolerant of warmer conditions and are a better choice for containers. They are available through Hadeo's online store for delivery in early June and should be planted as soon as you receive them. ▷

WHAT'S NEW

For years gardeners have lusted over the beautiful parrot, striped, double and black tulips seen growing in Europe and the good news is that they're now available in SA as treated tulips. Here are five of the new hybrids: **1.** 'Apricot Parrot' ('Star of Parrots') **2.** 'Queen of the Night' **3.** 'Carnaval de Nice' **4.** 'White Dream' **5.** 'Dreamland'



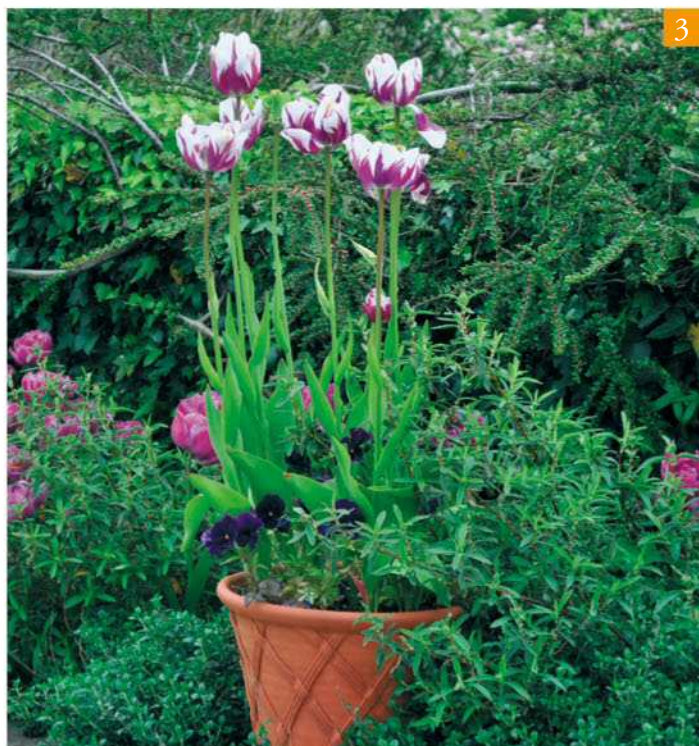
GARDENING WITH TULIPS

1 Create drama by mixing tulips in two different colours like black and white and different heights.

2 Tulips look regal when planted as a border in front of a bed in spring.

3 If you haven't had success with tulips before then grow them in containers as advised on the previous page. All tulip hybrids do well in pots. When they're in flower move them to a bed that gets shade in the afternoon.

4 Combine them with other flowers like low-growing primula or viola – make sure the companions are low even when in flower, so the tulips can hold their heads high above them. **GH**



SOURCES Pashley Manor Gardens pashleymanorgardens.com Treated bulbs are available online from **Hadeco** hadeco.co.za

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INSIDE *Out*

When they needed more space for relaxing and entertaining the Stofbergs of Centurion looked outwards

BEFORE





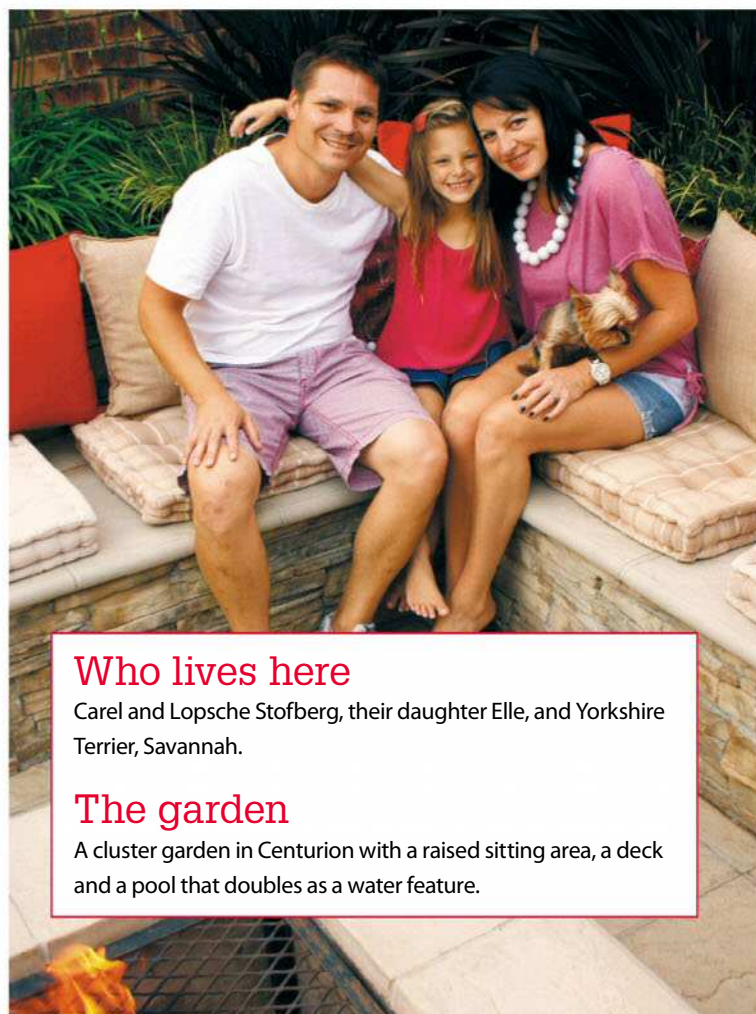
When Carel and Lopsche Stofberg wanted to extend the living space of their cluster home in Centurion, Gauteng, their solution was to look at the garden. “As we have wonderful weather almost all year round, we decided to turn it into a comfortable outdoor area which we could use for relaxing, dining, swimming and entertaining,” says Carel.

Impressed with the outdoor living spaces produced by Craig de Necker of The Friendly Plant, they asked him to help them realise the potential of their garden. There were also a few problems that needed fixing: the pool was about 25cm above the height of the surrounding lawn making access to the pool >

OPPOSITE PAGE: The stone-clad firepit is an ideal place for family celebrations and business gatherings.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ● To integrate the existing gazebo into the new design, a new base was constructed from laminated wood beams and steel brackets. ● Low-maintenance agapanthus provide year-round greenery and blooms in summer.

● Carel, Lopsche and Elle Stofberg with Savannah.



Who lives here

Carel and Lopsche Stofberg, their daughter Elle, and Yorkshire Terrier, Savannah.

The garden

A cluster garden in Centurion with a raised sitting area, a deck and a pool that doubles as a water feature.



tricky; a number of *Populus simonii* trees on the boundary were about to damage the walls and a gazebo that looked like an afterthought needed to be integrated into the garden.

The first task was to raise the level of the lawn around the pool. This area was repaved with flagstones and bullnose coping to give the pool a clean finish. The paving was extended to create a level dining area continuing into the corner where a firepit with additional seating was built. On the opposite side of the pool, composite decking wide enough to accommodate outdoor furniture was installed between the garage and the front door.

The existing canvas gazebo was incorporated into the new design. "We constructed a new base for it using laminated wood beams and custom-made steel brackets," says Craig. A low stone-clad wall was built at one end of the pool and doubles as a water feature. "A pool is a great asset during



summer but ideally you should have a water feature to create soothing background sounds," says Craig.

When it came to plants, Craig chose those that give maximum impact with minimum care to suit the Stofbergs' busy lifestyles. These include agapanthus, which provide balls



THIS SPREAD,
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
LEFT: ●The low wall at the
end of the pool has a water
feature on one side. ●Wall-
mounted spouts create a
soothing sound. ●Climbing
violet trumpet vines trained
up wooden trellising soften
the boundary walls.



BEFORE

of colour in summer, *Phormium tenax* 'Atropurpureum Nana' for structure and eye-catching dark foliage all year round, *Freylinia tropica* for year-round greenery and blooms in spring, evergreen, summer-flowering orange jessamine (*Murraya paniculata*), low-growing *Acorus gramineus* 'Golden Edge' and *Cordyline* 'Atropurpurea' for height.

Climbing violet trumpet vines (*Clytostoma callistegioides*) were trained up the existing wooden trellises to soften the boundary walls. "All these plants provide colour and movement and don't require much maintenance aside from watering," says Craig.

"Even though our garden now has more sitting areas and features, it seems far more spacious than before and we use it all the time, even for work purposes," smiles Carel. **GH**

SOURCE The Friendly Plant 082 805 0910 or thefriendlyplant.co.za



Quick FIXES

20 things you can
do this weekend to
improve your garden

- 1 Tired of tracking mud into your house?
Cover a muddy path with bark chips.



- 3 Attract more birds to your garden
by planting a berry-producing tree or
shrub like the Washington hawthorn
(*Crataegus phaenopyrum*, pictured), bird
berry (*Psychotria capensis*) and monkey
plum (*Diospyros lycioides*).



- 2 Hang up a bird feeder. There are many different types available at
garden centres. Decide which birds you'd like to attract and buy the
appropriate food. You'll get loads of enjoyment from their antics. And
make sure there's a source of water for them too.

- 4 PLANTS AREN'T THE
ONLY WAY TO ADD
COLOUR. SHAKE
THINGS UP WITH
COLOURFUL GARDEN
FURNITURE
LIKE THIS
CAPE COD
CHAIR FROM
MAKRO.



- 5 Boundary walls can look hard
and reflect heat. To soften them
and cool down the surrounding
area, attach a trellis and cover it
with a creeper.



- 6 Edging beds makes them look neater and keeps the grass out. Soften the effect by allowing plants to spill over the paving.



- 7 Hang up a hammock between the trees for a peaceful Sunday afternoon snooze.

- 8 Break up a long low bed with a series of obelisks. Make your own using sticks or bamboo and train a creeper up them.



- 9 MAKE A FEATURE OF BARE EXTERIOR WALLS WITH WALL-MOUNTED PLANTERS FILLED WITH COLOURFUL FOLIAGE.



- 10 Add a magical glow to the garden at night with solar-powered lights. There's the Mooni Solar Cube, R1 099,95 (below centre), which changes colour at the touch of a button, the Sparig twin pack, R479,95 (below right), which can be mounted on a wall or screwed to a deck, and the Solar Spot, R179,95 (below left), which has an adjustable head. They're all from The Lighting Warehouse. ▷



- 11** If you're short on space, plant herbs and veggies in a planter box, preferably one on wheels like the Urban Box from Jane's Delicious Garden which can be moved into the sun as the seasons change. They're made from recycled wood and come in a selection of colours.



- 12** PLACE A COMFORTABLE, WEATHERPROOF BENCH IN A SPOT WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY A LOVELY VIEW OF THE GARDEN AND WATCH THE BIRDS IN THE BIRDBATH.



- 13** If you're plagued by washaways when it rains, a clever solution is to create a mock river bed with large pebbles and stones as landscaper Grant Adam of Engadini Landscaping did here. Make sure the entire bed is covered with pebbles and stones and plant grasses and textured plants on either side.



- 14** Give your garden a unique personality with a statue or ornament. The secret is to choose those that are in keeping with the style of your home and not to go overboard. Less is more in this case.

- 15** Every garden needs a lemon tree. Plant one in a pot as a focal point or in the centre of a herb or vegetable garden.



- 16** Use an empty pot to make a statement in a bed. Look for interesting shapes and maintenance-free finishes, preferably ones that look better with age.



- 17** Uncovered soil is an invitation to weeds and also loses moisture quickly. Cover bare patches with easy-to-grow groundcovers like lamb's ears (pictured), lamium, and in shady areas, *Plectranthus madagascariensis*.

- 18** Brighten up your patio with a container filled with a variety of colourful plants. When combining plants consider texture and colour and choose those that have the same water and light requirements.



- 19** Plant veggies in your flower beds. Choose textures that will enhance the flowers already growing there; parsley makes a lush edging while carrots give a feathery background. The overblown shapes of cabbages are particularly eye-catching.



- 20** SHRUBS GETTING OUT OF HAND? WHY NOT CLIP THEM INTO INTERESTING SHAPES – ROUND BALLS, SQUARES, EVEN SPIRALS. CH



SOURCES Engadini Landscaping engadini.co.za
 Jane's Delicious Garden 082 898 6953 or
tub@janedeliciousgarden.com Makro makro.co.za
 The Lighting Warehouse lightingwarehouse.co.za

GARDEN notes

Now's the perfect time to plant a new tree and the last of your cool season spring bulbs

10 must dos this month

Contributing garden editor Marianne Alexander's handy checklist of essential chores to do in April

1 Mark the position of deciduous perennials like hostas, some Inca lilies, astilbe, peonies, perennial phlox and balloon flowers (*Platycodon grandiflorus*) to prevent digging them up while they're dormant.

2 Propagate frost-prone plants like begonias, impatiens (busy Lizzie), iresine (blood leaf), coleus (Joseph's coat) and plectranthus in cold areas by taking slips. Grow shrubs like hibiscus, viburnum, abelia and hydrangeas from hardwood cuttings. Dip in rooting powder or liquid, shake off the excess and plant in coarse river sand. Take semi-hardwood cuttings or slips with a heel of subshrubs like pentas, pelargoniums, lavender and heliotrope.

3 Plant the remainder of your cool season bulbs. Soak ranunculus and anemone bulbs overnight or lay them on wet paper towels to encourage them to absorb moisture. Plant ranunculus with the 'claws' down, and in damp areas, plant anemones on their sides on a bed of river sand. Space about 10cm apart; smaller bulbs can be closer. Order treated tulips from Hadeo.

4 For a lush lawn in shady areas, sow seed of cynodon or special shade grass mixes like Shade-Over, Starke Ayres' Shady Mix or LM/Berea, or plant plugs of buffalo grass.

5 Continue spraying roses for downy mildew during cool, damp periods with preventative products. Deadhead, and in cool regions, give a final feed using a low-nitrogen, high-potash fertiliser like 3:1:5 or use potassium sulphate to harden them off for the coming winter.

6 Split large clumps of rhizomatous and bulbous like watsonias, wild garlic, evergreen agapanthus, daylilies and summer-flowering red-hot poker. Plant indigenous *Chasmanthe floribunda* and cobra lily (*C. aethiopica*) for autumn and winter colour.

7 Spray conifers affected by Italian cypress aphid with Merit. As these pests suck the sap from the main stem and branches, they're only usually noticeable when foliage slowly yellows and ultimately browns.

8 Autumn is a good time to buy new trees and shrubs as the warm soil promotes root growth. Choose plants showing active growth; reject plants with roots sticking out of their containers

9 Give less water to summer-flowering bulbs like amaryllis, achimenes, begonias, caladiums and gloxinias. Replant or pot up winter and spring flowering primulas and cineraria and bulbs like cyclamen and lachenalia for the house and patio. Plant a few hyacinths or narcissus in containers of water; the base of the bulb should just touch the water.

10 To break up hard, compact clay soil, sprinkle in gypsum (calcium sulphate). It binds the particles turning it into a more friable, open soil and improves drainage while leaving the pH unaffected.



Hibiscus



Swing along

The perfect finishing touch to a pretty patio. Pod seat, R8 892 (excl. cushion), Re-Fined. Visit re-fined.com



The veggie garden

1 Harvest herbs and dry or freeze.

2 Pick mint (above) in cold areas and keep in glass jars on the windowsill. Plant out when roots appear.

3 Feed cabbages, cauliflower, kale and broccoli with a high-nitrogen feed.

4 To deter white cabbage butterflies plant garlic between your vegetables.

5 Plant broad beans, true spinach, leeks, peas and celery.

6 Sow beetroot seeds like MayFord's Garden Beet 'Touchstone Gold'. With its vibrant orange-red skin and rich gold flesh, this new beetroot has a sweet, milder taste than red beets and won't stain the way they do.

Kick up your heels

New from Malanseuns are these colourful plants with strap-like foliage. They're frost tolerant, have moderate water needs and are ideal for pots and as focal points.

1 *Cordyline 'Cha Cha'* has 150cm-long leaves in a colourful blend of apricot and brown which eventually turn yellow and green.

2 *Cordyline 'Can Can'* has variegated pink and red leaves which mature to a mix of cream on green.



4 BULBS THAT FLOWER YEAR AFTER YEAR

1 *Ipheion uniflorum* (spring star flower) has single, pretty pale lavender star-shaped flowers on thin stems that rise from clumps of grey-green strap-like leaves. Use as a border, between spring annuals like pansies or en masse. Good for picking. Height 10–15cm. Flowering time: August – September.

2 *Chincherinchee thyrsoides* (star-of-Bethlehem) are well known for their longevity as cut flowers. These fragrant indigenous bulbs with their tall flower spikes bloom longer than many other spring bulbs. Height: 20–50cm. Flowering time: October – November.

3 *Brodiaea 'Queen Fabiola'* has clusters of deep blue to violet flowers which stand above the green grass-like foliage. They last for several weeks and are good for picking. Mix with shorter spring annuals and plant in containers. Height 15–20cm. Flowering time: August – September.

4 *Allium neapolitanum* (florist allium), a garlic from the Mediterranean, has balls of small, dainty white flowers at the end of tall stems. Plant it between roses, among taller annuals and in a white border. Height 20cm. Flowering time: September – October. ▷

4 great buys for garden edging



1. Rope-design terracotta edging, R44,99 per block, Lifestyle Home Garden, lifestyle.co.za **2.** Timber edging, 2m long, in heights of 200mm, R120, 300mm, R145, and 400mm, R165, Garden World, gardenworld.co.za **3.** Rose and thistle edging, R29,99/22cm block, Lifestyle Home Garden, lifestyle.co.za **4.** Decorative metal edging, 1m wide x 50cm high, in rust and sealed finish, R580 each, Garden Bleu, Pretoria 012 362 1664 and Johannesburg 011 888 4734, gardenbleu.co.za

Romance of the rose

Old Roses: Survival and Revival in South Africa (Otterley Press), R420, edited by Jacqueline Kalley, traces the history of old roses (those bred or introduced before 1900) in South Africa and includes fascinating stories about them. The appendices provide practical aspects such as propagating and pruning. Available from Exclusive Books, other main bookshops and online from otterley.com

WIN! We're giving away a copy of this book. To enter, **SMS ROSES**, your name, city and e-mail address to 48406. An SMS costs R1,50. Errors will be billed and free SMSes do not apply. For Ts&Cs, see page 6.



READ MORE ONLINE

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Designer gardens

Get up to date with all the latest landscaping trends at the Lifestyle College Design Show 2015. This year's show gardens, designed by rising talents at the Lifestyle Garden Design College, are filled with great ideas for making the most of compact gardens and turning outdoor areas into entertaining spaces. There's also a Guild of Landscape Design (GoLD) contemporary garden, designed and installed by Patricia Manicom of Uptown Garden Design and Rose Vermeulen of Indigo Landscapes. Looking for practical gardening info? Attend one of the many talks and demonstrations which run in conjunction with the show.

The show is on until the end of May at Lifestyle Home Garden, cnr Beyers Naudé and Ysterhout Avenue, Randpark Ridge. Entrance is free. Call 011 792 5616 or visit lifestyle.co.za



This weekend...



- Remove old summer bedding plants and toss them onto the compost heap.
- Prepare beds for winter and spring displays by digging in compost, superphosphate and a sprinkle of bonemeal. Rake to level the soil, removing any stones; break up large clumps.
- Plant out seedlings of stocks, nemesias, Iceland poppies, violas, pansies, foxgloves and columbines (pictured below); plant primulas and cineraria in the shade. In summer-rainfall areas petunias are ideal.



WE'RE PLANTING... Snapdragons (*Antirrhinum*)

Why: Their different heights, ranging from around 15cm – 120cm, make them versatile enough to use in window boxes, containers, and as edging at the back of the border. Plus they make excellent cut flowers.

Where: They prefer full sun in moist but not waterlogged soil. They need a regular supply of water and aren't happy if left thirsty.

How: Don't plant them too close together as they like a fair amount of air around them. They may need a staking until their stems are nice and strong.

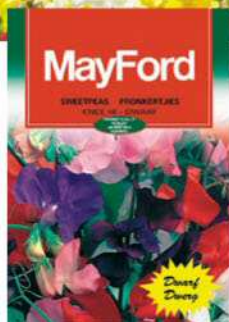


OPEN garden



Sweet AND LOW

Looking for seeds of single-colour sweet peas? Check out the wide selection of colours in Mayford's Knee Hi-Dwarf range. See page 110 for a step-by-step guide on how to plant them.



What's on

23 APRIL Red Hot Chilli Evening

Experts from the Durbanville Garden Club will give their tips on growing and cooking with chillies at the YOCO Eatery, Rust en Vrede Gallery, 10 Wellington Road, Durbanville in Cape Town. Then enjoy a selection of tastes showcasing the versatility of chillies. Tickets: R250 pp. To book, call 021 975 6322.

18 – 19 APRIL Klein Optenhorst

This magnificent garden near Wellington will be open from 09h00 – 16h30. Borders are filled with many unusual plants including 70 different salvias. The nursery specialises in salvias, which are a magnet for birds and insects and also stocks many other rare plants. Entrance is R40 and includes freshly baked scones and tea. Call Jenny Ferreira on 021 864 1210 or e-mail jenny.ferreira01@gmail.com **GH**

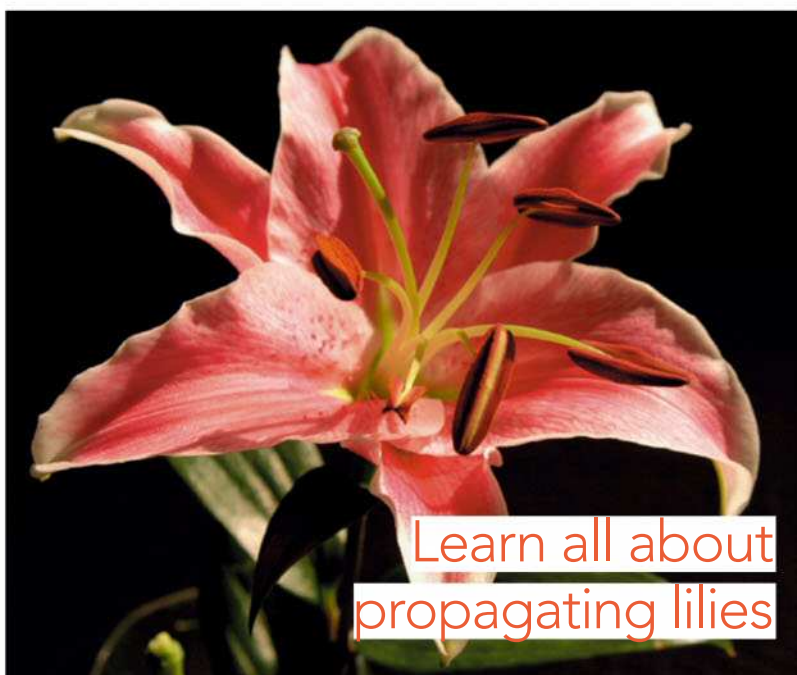
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A SWEET PEA *spectacle*

Now's the time to sow seeds for a
fragrant display in late winter and spring

With their multitude of sweetly scented pastel blooms, sweet peas are the ultimate harbinger of spring. Plus they make excellent cut flowers. Just decide whether you want the bush or climbing variety and choose a sunny spot near your patio, entrance or along a pathway where the sight and smell of the flowers can be fully experienced.

TIP!

Pick the flowers as they appear. The more you pick, the more flowers they produce.



HOW TO DO IT

Climbing varieties will need a support. Expert gardener, Celeste Pinkerton of Jo'burg uses a wooden pyramid to support her sweet peas. Follow her step-by-step guide to grow them from seed:
STEP 1: Choose your location, taking into account that sweet peas need sun for most of the day. In this garden, a wooden pyramid was placed in the corner of a large bed.

growing sweet peas

WHEN TO PLANT SWEET PEAS

Frost areas: late summer and autumn.

Frost-free areas: autumn and late winter.



STEP 2: Prepare the planting bed a few weeks before sowing. For best results, experts recommend trenching. To do this, dig down to about 40–50cm and remove the topsoil with a spade, putting it to one side.

STEP 3: Aerate the subsoil at the bottom of the trench using a spade or fork. Some gardeners add shredded newspaper to retain moisture near the roots.

STEP 4: Incorporate compost and/or well-rotted manure and superphosphate (a handful per m²) into the topsoil you have set aside.

STEP 5: Return the topsoil to the trench. Water well.

STEP 6: Soften the outer coat of the seeds to aid germination. You can do this by soaking them in a cup of water overnight, or by putting them in between two wet kitchen towels.

STEP 7: Sow your seeds in situ by pushing them into the soil about 2–3cm deep and about 10–15cm apart. Water after sowing and keep the soil moist until they sprout.

STEP 8: As soon as the shoots appear, start fertilising with a liquid feed such as Seagro every two to three weeks.

STEP 9: When the shoots are about 10–15cm high, pinch off the growing tips to encourage more shoots.

STEP 10: When the plants are about 20cm high, usually sometime in July, tie the stems to their support using old stockings. Keep tying as they grow. **GH**

harvesting household water

HOW DOES A GREY WATER SYSTEM WORK?

Basically water from the washing machine, dishwasher, bath and sink is directed into a tank or a filter and then pumped into the garden through an irrigation system. A filter is essential if you want to use the water to irrigate edible plants. The size of your garden will determine the type of system you need. It's also advisable to choose one that allows you to run the water back into the sewer if necessary, for example, during periods of high rainfall or when chemicals have been added to the water.

WHICH SYSTEMS CAN YOU CHOOSE FROM?

- Ideal for townhouses, clusters and small developments are small easy-to-install units that use the waste water immediately as bath and shower water flows through the drain. These cost around R4 500. In a double-storey home, gravity can be used to direct water from upstairs bathrooms.
- More complex systems collect the waste water in a tank where it's filtered and distributed with a pump attached to an underground or aboveground irrigation system; it can also be connected to an existing irrigation system. This type of system is capable of irrigating areas of up to 400m² and costs around R9 000 (excluding irrigation equipment).
- Another option involves a central tank, which is fed from various units. Each unit requires a collection tank and a pump to transfer the water to the central tank. The water is then filtered and treated with an aerator and a biological additive or with UV light to sterilise it. It's then pumped into an irrigation system according to a timer. The advantage of this system is that the watering times can be specified, but it is more expensive.

HOW EASY IS IT TO INSTALL ONE?

"It's reasonably simple as long as the plumbing outlets are accessible," says Mike Bekink. Many companies such as Grey Water Systems and Water Conservation Systems provide DIY kits with detailed installation manuals, or you can employ a

Going GREY

Instead of letting perfectly good water disappear down the drain, with the help of a grey water system, you can use it to keep your garden looking lush

On average, one person uses around 100 litres of water per day, which means a household of four goes through approximately 144 000 litres of water per year. And where does most of this water end up? Down the drain.

"By reusing bath, shower and laundry water, you can have a green garden all year round, even in times of drought or during water restrictions at little or no

extra cost," says Mike Bekink of Grey Water Systems in Cape Town, "plus grey water often includes nutrients that benefit plants."

WHAT IS GREY WATER?

"Grey water is the waste water from the shower, bath, bathroom sink and washing machine. It doesn't include toilet water or kitchen waste water," explains Marc Yoko of Water Conservation Systems in Knysna.



Drip irrigation is the best way to use grey water.



The G-Flow system is a tankless grey water diversion system from Water Conservation Systems.

reputable plumber to do it for you. "These systems can be connected to existing plumbing," explains Marc Yoko. "The installation involves a small amount of plumbing to redirect pipes and then some digging in the garden to lay the drip irrigation."

"You'll also need a waterproof exterior electrical connection for the pump which should be installed by a qualified electrician. It's not necessary to re-plumb the house as bathrooms and laundries all have outlets connected to the drains."


Installation should be completed within a day. "But this depends on the size of the garden and whether you want to wall mount the system or bury it underground. The quicker option is to wall mount it and then install the drip line system," adds Marc.



A typical grey water system installed by Water Conservation Systems.

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO USE GREY WATER?

"To prevent the growth of bacteria and ensure the water is still pleasant smelling and hygienic, use grey water within 24 hours," says Mike Bekink. "The residues and soaps, etc., diluted in the water include sulphates and nitrates, which experts say can benefit plants, but it's best to use biodegradable products in the washing machine."

"Research shows that the most effective way of using grey water in the garden is to direct it as close to the roots of plants as possible," says Marc Yoko. "This not only helps minimise odours, it sends water to where it's needed. So, while sprinklers can be used, a drip line irrigation system is more effective." 

SOURCES Grey Water Systems

079 673 6240, greywater@kingsley.co.za or greywater.co.za **Water Conservation Systems** 044 382 4887, marc@watercon.co.za or watercon.co.za **Water Wise** waterwise.co.za

POINTS TO CONSIDER

- There's currently no legislation in South Africa on grey water, but some local councils have their own by-laws, so check these before you install a grey water system.
- Reuse grey water within 24 hours to prevent the growth of bacteria and unpleasant odours.
- Opt for biodegradable, environmentally friendly personal and household cleaning products so that chemicals don't build up in the soil.
- Don't reuse water from your kitchen sink and dishwasher, water in which cloth nappies have been washed and to which chemicals or hair dye have been added.
- Never drink grey water.
- Allow the water to cool before irrigating your plants.
- "While grey water can definitely be used on lawns, to prevent a build-up of soap scum and other debris, don't use it in the same place all the time," advises Samanta Stelli of Water Wise (Rand Water's environmental brand). "If you use it to water edible crops, ensure that the water only touches the plants' roots and not the edible parts."
- Don't spray grey water on paving. Use it only where it can sink into the ground.



Cutting the mustard

Mustard is one of the simplest leafy greens to grow and has a surprising range of uses. Jane Griffiths shows us how to make the most of this versatile plant

Although it's an ancient plant, mustard should be grown in every modern vegetable garden. Every part of it can be used and it takes just 60 days from sowing to setting seed. Mustard belongs to the *Brassica* family, which includes broccoli and cabbage. Many popular Asian greens, such as mizuna and tatsoi, are also technically mustards but the broader leaved varieties are commonly referred to as garden mustard. Of these, *Brassica alba*, *B. nigra* and *B. juncea* are the most popular.

Brassica alba (white or yellow mustard) is grown for its yellowish-white seeds. These are mild but have the strongest preserving power and are good for pickling. *B. nigra*, or black mustard is also grown for its seeds, which are more flavourful and are an essential ingredient in many Indian dishes. *B. juncea*'s brown seeds are the hottest and perfect for spicy Chinese mustards and fiery curries. For masses of leaves, choose *B. juncea* varieties such as 'Florida Broadleaf' and 'Giant Red'.

GROWING TIPS

- Mustard prefers cooler weather and won't do well in hot summer months. It tolerates cold temperatures up to -7°C and grows throughout winter in most of South Africa. It's happy in any soil but does best in fertile, well-drained soil with regular moisture and in full sun or partial shade; its larger leaves are efficient photosynthesisers and don't mind afternoon shade, especially in warmer months.
- Broadcast seeds evenly on level ground and pat in. Keep moist until they germinate and within two weeks you'll have a flourishing bed of greens. If they're sown too thickly, harvest the younger ones for salads and stir-fries and leave the remainder to mature.
- In hotter weather, the leaves will be spicier and plants will go to seed more quickly. For a continuous supply of fresh leaves, do successive sowings.
- Mustard produces masses of yellow flowers that attract beneficial insects. If you let the pods ripen and burst, they'll



'Giant Red' mustard is beautiful and edible.



Leave the plants to flower and they'll go to seed.



Cool season green mustard adds a hot bite to winter salads.

rapidly sow themselves throughout your garden.

● Quick-growing mustards like 'Green Frills' and 'Red Frills' are ideal for sprouting or growing as microgreens. Pick them when they've developed two true leaves. Red and green varieties can be planted together to create a colourful mix.

PESTS AND DISEASES

Mustard has few problems with pests. If grown in warmer months, beetles can munch the leaves. In warm, wet weather mildew can be a problem. The solution is to grow it in cooler months.

SAVING SEEDS

To save seeds, leave the mustard to flower. Plants might need staking to prevent them flopping over. Once the pods have dried to a tan colour, cut the stems and place them heads down in a paper bag. When they're crispy, rub the pods to let the seeds fall out and store them in an airtight container.

GREEN MANURE

When grown as a cover crop, known as a green manure, mustard is an excellent fertiliser. Sown thickly it'll quickly develop into a green blanket, smothering

any weeds. After four weeks, cut it back to the roots with clippers or a weed eater and turn it over into the top layer of soil. This returns nutrients to the soil and helps cleanse it of diseases, harmful nematodes and insects. As it breaks down, it will improve soil structure. Wait a week or two before planting the next crop. Plant mustard after heavy crops, and those that run the risk of disease, such as potatoes and tomatoes.

IN THE KITCHEN

After four weeks start harvesting young leaves. These can be eaten raw, steamed or quickly stir-fried. Older leaves need to be cooked a little longer and taste delicious with pork, in stews and soups. Steamed or sautéed they make a green bed for grilled fish and chicken. Leaves are rich in nutrients, including manganese, calcium and vitamins K, A and C. The bright yellow flowers are edible, adding a delicate colour splash to salads. Mustard – the condiment – is made from the seeds of the plant. The seeds' flavour is only released when they're cracked and mixed with a liquid. They're an excellent source of selenium, an anti-inflammatory which is thought to help ease asthma and arthritis. **GH**

HOW TO MAKE MUSTARD

1 cup liquid (wine, beer, verjus or vinegar)
½ cup mustard seeds (brown, white, black or a combination of all three)
flavourings like salt and spices, to taste

1. Mix all the ingredients in a stainless steel bowl, cover and place in the fridge. Leave for 2–3 days.

2. Blend the ingredients in a processor. The longer you blend, the smoother the mustard will be. Add a little more liquid if required.

COOK'S NOTE: Mustard will keep for up to six months in the fridge, after that it will start losing its flavour. Use any of the following flavourings to add your personal touch: caraway seeds, coriander seeds, honey, allspice, turmeric, rosemary, horseradish, maple syrup and chillies.

SOURCES *Jane's Delicious Herbs* by Jane Griffiths (Sunbird Publishers)
Mustard seeds are available from **Livingseeds** livingseeds.co.za **Organic Seeds** organicseed.co.za **Seeds for Africa** seedsforafrica.co.za **Sought After Seedlings** soughtafterseedlings.co.za

alfresco autumn lunch

Vive la France!

Franck Deroche invites close friends to enjoy a selection of his favourite dishes at his home in Blairgowrie, Jo'burg

TEXT LISA VAN DER KNAAP PHOTOGRAPHS ELMARIE KNAPTON THESE RECIPES ARE SUPPLIED BY THE ENTERTAINERS AND WHILE EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO ENSURE THEY ARE CORRECT, THEY HAVEN'T BEEN TESTED BY GARDEN AND HOME



MENU

KIR ROYALE



TOMATO, ASPARAGUS AND
GOAT'S CHEESE QUICHE



DUCK MAGRET WITH
GRATIN DAUPHINOIS



DARK CHOCOLATE MOUSSE
WITH BERRIES



Naomi Lince-Deroche and
Franck and Max Deroche

In the leafy suburb of Blairgowrie in Johannesburg live a French foodie and his family. Parisian-born Franck Deroche first came to South Africa in 1994 when his mother worked in the tourism industry. "Every year for six years, I came back to explore South Africa – and I adored it," he explains. Since moving here permanently in 2004, he's done everything from importing and distributing French wines to marketing various eco-lodges and luxury boutique hotels, but his love for food and entertaining has stayed constant.

"I've always enjoyed throwing dinner and surprise parties, and although I worked in the tourism industry, a lot of what I did was putting together events and looking after people," he explains. So when his friend, Christophe Jouet left the corporate world in 2010 to start an events company, Event Alchemy, Franck was a natural fit and is now general manager.

One of the most exciting aspects of the business is the charity, Feast Food and Wine Club, which hosts fabulous food events in order to raise money; Franck used to be the chairman, but since he and his wife had a baby, he's one of the committee members.

"We hold a lunch or a dinner, usually every eight weeks and all the profits fund bursaries for underprivileged youngsters to study to become chefs, under the Dr Bill Gallagher Young Chefs Study Assistance Fund." Their events range from the sophisticated at Cube Tasting Kitchen and Roots at Forum Homini, to the relaxed, like a gourmet picnic and outdoor movie screening at Jo'burg's magnificent Shepstone Gardens. "This year, we'd like to have another movie screening in the middle of the city," he explains. "We're also looking at taking Feast to Cape Town and Durban over the next year or two."

At home, however, Franck likes to keep things simple. His wife, Naomi, is also an excellent cook and is happy to spend an entire Saturday cooking. "She's really good

with Asian flavours," says Franck. "I lean more towards French classics; I have quite a good palate, but I'm not a recipe guy – I like things that are simple to pull together."

When it comes to table settings, Franck changes things according to who's on the guest list. He might go a bit more classic with the look... or much more colourful. It all depends. "It's not often that we have a themed party, but we did have a Mexican night with sombreros and ponchos, which was a huge hit!" he says.

Since their son Max was born, the couple entertain more over weekends. As the doorbell announces the arrival of their guests, Frank says: "As we're so close to Delta Park, we regularly go there for picnics, but now that we have a garden, we entertain on the terrace so much more often... even during the cooler seasons." ▷



KIR ROYALE

(Serves 6-8)

Crème de Cassis

1 bottle Champagne, or your favourite bubbly

Pour 15ml Crème de Cassis into each glass and fill them up with your desired bubbly.

TOMATO, ASPARAGUS AND GOAT'S CHEESE QUICHE

(Serves 8)

FOR THE PASTRY:

300g all-purpose flour

3ml salt

160g unsalted butter, cold and cut into cubes

about 70ml very cold water

FOR THE FILLING:

Dijon mustard

20-30 baby tomatoes

3 eggs

250g crème fraîche

250g cheese, preferably

Emmental or Gruyère, grated salt and pepper, to taste

12-16 baby asparagus

100g soft goat's cheese, sliced

1T thyme

TO SERVE:

microgreens

1. To make the pastry: mix the flour and salt in a big



bowl. Add the cubes of cold butter. Using a pastry cutter or your hands, mix it together until you have a lumpy/sandy texture.

2. Add the water a few spoonfuls at a time, and using your hands, continue mixing the flour and butter. Stop adding water when the mixture sticks together in a ball.

3. Seal it in a plastic bag and chill it in the fridge for at least an hour or two.

4. When ready to use, roll it out on a lightly floured surface as thinly as possible. Transfer it to a 28-30cm pie dish. Fit it in neatly,

trimming the edges so it doesn't hang over the sides; prick several holes in the bottom with a fork.

5. Preheat the oven to 180°C.

6. Use a spoon to spread the mustard over the raw pastry crust. Put the pastry back in the fridge until you're ready to fill it.

7. To make the filling: remove the seeds from the tomatoes.

8. Beat the eggs in a bowl.

Add the crème fraîche, the grated cheese, plus salt and

pepper to taste. Add the tomatoes and pour the egg mixture into the pastry shell. Spread it evenly over the ingredients in the bottom.

9. Place the asparagus, the goat's cheese and the thyme on top then bake in the oven for 30 minutes until the top is golden brown.

10. Serve warm in wedges with microgreens.

COOK'S TIP: You can keep the pastry in the fridge for a few days.





Christophe Jouet
and Franck Deroche



DUCK MAGRET

(Serves 4)

4 duck breasts
salt and pepper

TO SERVE:
green beans
store-bought berry coulis or
onion jam

1. Make incisions in the skin of the duck breast with a sharp knife. Season the skin with salt and pepper.
2. Heat the pan on the stove to a medium to high heat. Cook the duck skin side down for about 8–10 minutes depending on the thickness. Make sure the fat doesn't burn. The skin should render the fat and be golden brown and crispy. Cook on the other side for a few seconds.
3. Remove from the heat and let them rest for 4–5 minutes on a board before serving.
4. Serve whole or cut them into 1cm-thick slices, skin side up with the gratin dauphinois and steamed green beans, accompanied by the coulis or onion jam.

GRATIN DAUPHINOIS

(Serves 4–6)

1kg potatoes
2 garlic cloves
80g butter, plus cubes for baking
250ml milk
500ml crème fraîche
salt and pepper, to taste

TO SERVE:
fresh Italian parsley, chopped

1. Peel the potatoes and cut them into very thin slices (preferably use a mandoline).
2. Preheat the oven to 220°C.
3. Rub the inside of a serving dish with the garlic then generously rub with butter.
4. Add the potato slices in even layers.
5. Mix the milk and crème fraîche in a bowl, season with salt and pepper and pour over the potatoes.
6. Add cubes of butter at random before putting the dish in the oven. Bake for 50 minutes.
7. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and serve warm with the duck magret. ▷

QUICK CHAT WITH THE COOK

My cooking style is simple, honest and tasty.

My favourite ingredients are basil, cheese and pasta – probably because they're all so versatile.

The kitchen gadget I couldn't live without is a bottle opener, because a good meal with good company needs a good wine.

My favourite comfort meal is an open sandwich with cheese and pâté or marinated sardines.

For dinner parties, I love to serve Raclette – a Swiss cheese dish served with salad, cold meat and potatoes.



Daniel Tomur and
Heleen Markides



Christophe Jouet



Naomi Lince-Deroche

DARK CHOCOLATE MOUSSE

(Serves 4)

30g butter

3 eggs

salt

200g quality dark chocolate

TO SERVE:

fresh berries of your choice

mint


1. Soften the butter in the microwave for 10–15 seconds.
2. Separate the eggs. In a separate bowl, whisk the whites until they form peaks; add a tiny bit of salt to assist the process.
3. Cut the chocolate into small pieces and melt it slowly either in the microwave or in a bain marie (in a pan over boiling water).

4. Once melted, mix the chocolate with the butter and then add the egg yolks.


5. Add the whisked egg whites very slowly, making sure to fold them delicately into the chocolate mixture and in the same direction (clockwise or counter-clockwise, it doesn't matter which).

6. Pour into small ramekins and refrigerate for at least three hours.

7. Serve with fresh berries and a sprig of mint.

COOK'S TIP: Don't mix the whisked egg whites into the chocolate too fast or the dessert won't be light and airy. 



SOURCES Event Alchemy eventalchemy.co.za  **Feast Food and Wine Club**

WE'RE GIVING AWAY...

To stand a chance to win these great prizes, SMS* the entry code (e.g. BLINDS), your name and e-mail address to 48406. An SMS costs R1,50, errors will be billed and free SMSes do not apply

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CONTACTS Coolaroo coolaroo.co.za Plush plush.co.za The Last Word Long Beach thelastword.co.za

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS: 1. Standard terms and conditions apply. 2. An SMS costs R1,50. Errors will be billed and free SMSes do not apply. 3. Entries close on 30 April 2015. 4. It is not mandatory to supply your e-mail address with your entry. 5. Offer valid for SA residents only. 6. The Last Word getaway excludes public holidays, is on a bed-and-breakfast basis and is valid from May 2015 to October 2015. 7. The getaway excludes travel and any other expenses not mentioned are for the winners' own account. 8. To comply with the Consumer Protection Act, the winners must supply their ID numbers. A maximum of 10 entries will be accepted per ID number. 9. The prizes are not transferable and cannot be converted to cash.



Going COASTAL

If you're travelling to the West Coast then make a stop at Paternoster's only five-star boutique guesthouse, Abalone House and Spa, and enjoy the West Coast-themed menu at acclaimed South African chef Reuben Riffel's restaurant, Reuben's Paternoster. Popular dishes include double-baked snoek soufflé with salted apricots. Visit abalonehouse.co.za for autumn and winter specials.

After-dinner treat

Bringing liqueurs back into fashion are these two grappa-based cream liqueurs from Bottega Wines and Spirits. Fior di Latte has white chocolate and vanilla flavours while Gianduia tastes of milk chocolate with a hint of hazelnuts. They're available in 500ml bottles, around R209,50, from selected liquor stores nationwide.



Bon appetit

Get a taste of what's new in the culinary world

Say CHEESE

Two new cheeses, mascarpone and mozzarella, from Italy's No. 1-rated cheese brand Galbani, are now on SA supermarket shelves.

Use the mascarpone to make this decadent Rose Berry Meringue (pictured above). You'll find the recipe on our website gardenandhome.co.za and more Galbani cheese recipes at galbanicheese.com



Rabbiting on

Indulge yourself and spoil your nearest and dearest this Easter with these chocolate novelties from Woolworths. We love the Speckled Eggs in a bunny jar and Ferrero Rocher's Easter Bunny. Visit woolworths.co.za



CHOP CHOP

When you're short of time, the KitchenAid Chopper, R1 390, which blends

and purées with a simple one-touch operation, comes to the rescue. You'll find it at selected retailers and online. Visit kitchenaidafrica.com

A good egg-sample

If you want to encourage your kids to make their own breakfast, the WMF McMicro Egg Boiler, R199, at Liv'n kitchen stores is the answer. It soft- and hard-boils eggs in the microwave in a flash. Just pour water in the lower half, place an egg in the cup, screw the lid on firmly and microwave. It looks cute too. Visit livin.co.za



What's on

4 APRIL Burgers and Blends at Spier

Find out which are the best blends to drink with your favourite burger at this occasion hosted by Gourmet Farmer Angus and Spier Wine Farm in Stellenbosch, R195 pp. Call 021 809 1100 or visit spier.co.za

17 - 18 APRIL Bot River Barrels & Beards Harvest Celebration

This harvest festival in the Overberg includes wine tastings by bearded winemakers, wood-fired pizzas and more. Call 082 852 6547 or visit botriverwines.com

18 APRIL Biltong & Pinotage Festival

Pinotage and biltong fans take note, this new show takes place at L'Avenir Wine Estate in Stellenbosch. Tickets, R150 each, are available at plankton.mobi. Visit lavenirestate.co.za



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effortless entertaining

A *fresh* START

A relaxing brunch with a new take on old favourites is a great way to celebrate the weekend



CARROT, GINGER AND PINEAPPLE JUICE

(Serves 4)

500g carrots, washed
1 pineapple, peeled and quartered
20ml fresh ginger, peeled
10ml lemon juice
1ml ground ginger

1. Ensure the carrots and pineapple are well-chilled before you start.
2. Press the carrots, pineapple and ginger through a juicer and stir in the lemon juice and ground ginger.
3. Stir well and serve at once in chilled glasses.

SWEET COUSCOUS

(Serves 4)

125ml water
80ml milk
1 orange, juiced
10ml orange zest
5ml lemon or grapefruit zest
5 cardamom pods, crushed
2 cinnamon sticks, broken
1 star anise
150g wholewheat couscous
15ml butter
20ml brown sugar
75g nuts, such as almonds, pecan nuts, walnuts, chopped
75g dried fruits, such as sultanas, raisins, dried figs, dried cranberries, chopped
10g coconut shavings, toasted

TO SERVE:

Greek-style yoghurt
honey

1. Place the water, milk, orange juice, orange zest, lemon or grapefruit zest, cardamom pods, cinnamon sticks and star anise in a pan and bring to the boil.
2. Place the couscous in a heatproof bowl and pour the hot mixture over it.
3. Cover with plastic wrap or a plate and allow to stand for 10 minutes.
4. Fluff up the couscous, using a fork and add the butter, sugar, nuts, dried fruits and coconut shavings.
5. Serve warm, at room temperature or chilled with yoghurt and honey.

LIKE A SHOPPING LIST?

Visit gardenandhome.co.za and go to Our Mag, then Current Issue to download the shopping list for this menu.



'LIGHT' EGGS BENEDICT

(Serves 4)

4 English muffins, halved and toasted
1 packet rocket leaves
2 tomatoes, sliced
250g bacon rashers, grilled
8 eggs, poached

FOR THE 'LIGHT' HOLLANDAISE SAUCE:

120g low-fat quality mayonnaise
5ml Dijon mustard
30ml lemon juice
45ml butter, melted
2ml cayenne pepper, plus extra for sprinkling
salt and pepper, to taste

TO SERVE:

lemon wedges
cherry tomatoes, grilled
micro herbs

1. To make the hollandaise sauce: place the mayonnaise, mustard and lemon juice in a small bowl and mix well.
2. Gradually whisk in the melted butter, in a thin and steady stream. Season to taste with the cayenne pepper and salt and pepper and set aside until ready to use.
3. To assemble the dish, place 2 muffin halves on each serving plate.
4. Top each muffin half with a few rocket leaves, 2 slices of tomato and some crispy bacon rashers.
5. Place a poached egg on top and spoon some of the hollandaise sauce over the eggs.
6. Sprinkle a little cayenne pepper over the sauce, garnish with micro herbs and serve with the lemon wedges and grilled baby tomatoes. **GH**

destinations



Victoria Clocktower



Produce and flowers at the Sir Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke Market.



Sir Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke Market

THE LITTLEST capital

Sarah Laurence soaks up the old-world atmosphere of Victoria on the Seychelles archipelago

When Arab traders discovered the Seychelles archipelago in about 800AD, they found a lush, unpopulated paradise that soon became home to people from all four corners of the globe. Not long after the traders came a procession of conquerors, captives and kings. The islands were beset by Portuguese adventurers, French pirates (one of whom buried a stash of treasure yet undiscovered), an Irish governor and both French and British colonisers.

More recently in 1981, 'Mad Mike' Hoare led a group of largely South African mercenaries to the Seychelles in an attempt to stage a coup and seize power from socialist leader France-Albert René. Unfortunately for the Froth Blowers (the beer and social club guise under which they travelled) they so enthusiastically lived up to their cover that their secret, and weapons, were rumbled at the airport and they had to force an Air India plane to take them back to Durban.



Sainte Anne Marine National Park

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS SARAH LAURENCE



Our arrival in Victoria, the capital city situated on the main island of Mahé, was thankfully more peaceful, our welcome warmer and our stay a little longer. The open-air airport – swathed at the time in fabric in the national colours in honour of Independence Day – is only a few hundred metres away from a quaintly decorated colonial city, where fairy lights illuminate old-fashioned monuments, people gather in the warm streets to celebrate and children play happily in the waning dusk.

To explore the city centre we headed first towards its landmark: the shiny silver Victoria Clocktower. Surrounded by bustling shops, banks, offices and restaurants, the tower has been a landmark and meeting place since it was unveiled in 1903 – some say as a gift of independence goodwill from the British government while others maintain as a tax-paid tribute to Queen Victoria. Although understandably described as Small Big Ben, the *Lorloz* as it's locally known, is actually a replica of London's 1892 Vauxhall Bridge tower (Little Ben).

After strolling for about 100m the crowds drew us towards Market Street, a pedestrianised thoroughfare where poky second-hand technology outlets jostle with ethnic food stores, informal clothing carts and rickety lottery stalls. Middle-aged women in tea dresses and hats haggled at stalls while twittering away in Seselwa. In the eponymous street we found the island's best market – the Sir Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke Market which is a tribute to Sir Percy

SARAH'S TRAVEL TIPS

NEED TO KNOW LINGO: The official languages of the Seychelles are English, French and Creole (a phonetic French language). Although you'll be fine with English alone, a basic grasp of French will help with daily interactions and goodwill.

SHOP UP A STORM: The Seychelles offers less in the way of souvenirs than many beach destinations. However, spices, jewellery, original art and the locally brewed Takamaka coconut rum make great gifts.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO PACK: Your swimming costume and a hat. The island is very casual, so leave your formal clothes at home.

MUST-SEE SITES: As well as city-centre landmarks such as the Victoria Clocktower and the Arul Mihu Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple, make sure you see the island's spectacular beaches.

MOST DELICIOUS BITES: The fresh octopus curry sold at the Beau Vallon night market and the island's favourite dessert: coco banane.



Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke, once governor of the Seychelles and a vociferous advocate for health reform and the improvement of living standards. We explored his two-storey namesake, ogling the food and flowers sold under flag-coloured umbrellas on the ground floor and giggling at the tacky art and curios above them. Although it's open every day, the locals insist that the best time to visit is on Saturday mornings when Seychellois from across the island come to bargain, stocking up for the weekend festivities and Sunday's rigorously kept day of rest. After enjoying the shade and entrepreneurial bustle we kept walking and found the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception ▸



La Domas



Seychelloise women.



Night market.



Arul Mihu Navasakthi
Vinayagar Temple

and its neighbouring monastic residence, La Domas – a granite rock-hewn building built by (one supposes, remarkably strong) Swiss missionaries. The cathedral is the largest in the Seychelles, and having been consecrated in 1874, one of the oldest. It serves the community by baptising children born in wedlock on Sundays and out of wedlock on (far busier) Fridays.

Only a block away from the cathedral is the nation's only Hindu temple – the vividly coloured Arul Mihu Navasakthi

PLANNING YOUR TRIP

WHERE TO STAY: The Four Seasons Resort Seychelles not only provides the luxury you'd expect, it also offers the best service on the island, villas with individual pools and one of the most postcard-perfect beaches. Visit fourseasons.com/seychelles If you're on a budget, the Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Resort & Casino is central and family friendly, has a great pool area and large, clean rooms. Visit berjahotel.com

CURRENCY: Although the official currency is the Seychellois Rupee (SCR), the euro and USD are widely used for bigger-ticket items. Rupees can be drawn from almost any ATM and are similar in value to the rand (R1 = about SCR1,24), making prices easy to calculate.

GETTING AROUND: Travel on the public bus network, which only costs a few rupees for each trip. Schedules are posted at the bus stops, but you'll never have to wait long for a ride.

WHEN TO GO: Avoid booking your trip in December and January, as these are the rainy months. The cooler season, between May and October, is ideal.



Women in hats
haggle at the stalls.



Colourful Creole buildings in Victoria.



A local watering hole.



Four Seasons Spa

Vinayagar Temple, which is so vibrant, it stopped us in our tracks. Cameras raised, we clicked away furiously attempting to capture it from different angles. More diminutive up close than it appears in pictures, the intricately detailed sanctuary is open to the public for a small donation and is a peaceful place to escape a rainy morning or spend time gazing at the decorations.

Mahé's small size means that it's easy to venture beyond Victoria and explore the rest of the island. We stayed at the crescent-shaped Beau Vallon beach, only 5km from the capital. As evening falls, local families picnic and celebrate birthdays in between resort loungers, and children from different countries play soccer with new friends. The beach is the perfect size for a long walk, ending on the north point with picturesque cafés selling ice cream. Every Wednesday at about lunch time locals set up a festive market just above the beach. As the sun dips down into the sea, locals and tourists alike are drawn to the aromas of coconut octopus curry, Creole dessert and home-made palm wine. Arrive early enough to look at souvenirs in the daylight, miss the


meal queues and enjoy the live music.

Although western cuisine is found throughout the island, an unexpected treat was the discovery of the delicious Creole fare; a combination of African, Malay and European dishes that make excellent use of the nation's home-grown produce such as cinnamon, pineapple, fresh seafood and coconut.

While we spent a lot of our time lying next to either beach or pool, Mahé's tropical scenery and eco-tourism focus mean an abundance of activities. From Beau Vallon we hiked along rocky pathways and eventually wound our way down to the movie-set-like bay of Anse Major, only accessible on foot or by water taxi. Its smooth-sculpted driftwood, azure-green water and a makeshift wooden change-shack made us feel as though we were on the set of *Cast Away*.

Wherever you're staying on the island, you're most likely to be offered an excursion to Sainte Anne Marine National Park consisting of a trip

in a glass-bottomed boat, a chance to snorkel at various sites and a beach barbeque for lunch. While the trips vary in length and price, the quality of snorkelling is the same – unparalleled.

Until the late 1990s, the Seychelles' only accommodation was foreign-owned luxury resorts. Due to a scarcity of foreign exchange, however, the socialist government now allows privately owned guesthouses. For visitors looking for a beach holiday, this means that a wide range of food and accommodation options are available – self-catering and beach B&Bs abound – and that mid-priced resorts are having to offer real value in the face of competition. However, if you're looking for indulgence, a visit to the Four Seasons Resort and its spa (voted best resort in the Seychelles for 2014) is worth splashing out on. At the highest point of the resort, the spa overlooks the bay of Petite Anse, and aside from treatment rooms with a view, contains many secluded lounge spots where watching the scenery and drinking homemade cinnamon tea is encouraged, as well as a rooftop terrace where Champagne is served at sunset. 

COLLECTING DELFT WITH

Johanna Kirk

So passionate was this devotee, she once painted her entire dining room wall Delft blue to show off her collection

Nothing, other than the sight of tulips in full bloom, reminds one more of Holland than distinctive blue and white Delftware.

Johanna Kirk's collection started over 40 years ago when she was given a Delftware tile as a gift. "My Dutch friends Ellie and Jan brought it back from Amsterdam in the mid-1970s. I loved the tile, not so much because of the make, but because of the message on it. Roughly translated it says 'Guests bring joy, if not with their arrival, then with their departure'. I hung the tile on a wall close to my front door for my amusement and everybody who visited just assumed I collected Delftware.

"Soon I found out that my guests didn't just bring joy, they brought a lot of Delftware. Gift after gift joined my collection, which over the years grew dramatically in size. I have more plates than I can count and probably more ceramic clogs and windmills than there are in Holland," Johanna laughs.

"I became a bit obsessed at one stage, painting my entire dining room wall Delft blue to show off my collection. I remember taking a plate to the paint shop to match the colour perfectly. It's



RIGHT: Decorative Delftware clog ashtrays and trinket holders.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF DELFTWARE

- The distinctive blue and white pottery gets its name from Delft, a small town outside Amsterdam, where it's been produced since the 1600s. Today Delftware is more about the style and colour than place of origin. The tin-glazed pottery (which interestingly is brown before firing) is made all over the Netherlands and has become a part of the identity of this country.
- Originally the wares were decorated with Chinese motifs in the Imari and Willow pattern styles. At the time only very rich Europeans could afford expensive wares from the East, so Dutch potters made knock-offs of Chinese goods. The exact opposite of what happens in the designer goods market today.
- Delftware was originally minimally decorated and used as domestic, everyday ware. Over time it portrayed typically Dutch scenes like farming, fishing and traditional landscapes. Wall tiles were particularly popular and commonplace in most 18th-century Dutch homes.
- In the 20th century Delft was used more for ornamental purposes. High-end hand-painted goods compete for attention with cheaper-quality transferwares made mostly for the souvenir market.





TIPS FOR ASPIRING COLLECTORS

- “It’s quite easy to tell the difference between good quality Delft and souvenir quality Delft,” says Shay Moore of Auld Lang Syne Antiques and Collectables in Benoni. “Firstly the whites are a bright white and the blues a deep cobalt blue. If you look closely, cheaper screen-printed glazes consist of small dots that make up the image. Hand-painted wares are always more sought after.”
- The finer the detail, the greater the price. Vintage and antique Delftware is rare and pricey. Only one original manufacturer still exists namely, De Koninklijke Porceleyne Fles. The name is clearly marked under items.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

- Hand-painted plate with rural scene by Distel Blauw Delfts.
- Transferware, 1940s, based on classic Dutch landscape painting.
- Bols Liqueur houses made by Koninklijke Goedewaagen for KLM Airlines. Produced from 1952 – 1993, there were different houses in the series.
- Delft and wood coffee grinder from the mid-1960s.

that particular rich shade of blue that does it for me.

“I’ve downsized in the past couple of years, so I’ve packed many pieces away and display only my favourites – but I do swap things around every now and then. My favourite pieces are the ones my late husband bought me as anniversary, birthday and thank-you presents. I also love the two 19th-century plates that my Aunt Doreen gave me (top plate pictured right) and I must also admit that I’m a bit mad about my clockwork windmill that plays ‘Tulips from Amsterdam’.

“I’ve stopped collecting large pieces and now stick to small items like the Delftware Bols Brandy ‘house’ bottles that KLM Airlines gave their first-class passengers. I hope one day soon to have my very own miniature Delftware village.” **GH**



CARING FOR DELFT

- If you only use your Delft for display, dust it regularly with a soft cloth and wash it every six months. Over time ceramics dry out, become brittle and develop crazing (fine surface cracks) in warm, dry climates like the Highveld.
- Handwash in lukewarm water using a mild dishwashing detergent, never bleach or hot water.

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT:

- Salt and pepper shakers, toothpick holder and wind-up musical windmill.
- One of the oldest pieces, this transferware, circa 1860, is a variation on the Willow pattern.
- A charger (large plate for display) by Boch Freres, mid-20th-century.
- Hand-painted calligraphy tile from Amsterdam.



SOURCE Auld Lang Syne Antiques and Collectables 011 967 2241 or 083 274 7437

Treasure chest

What are your collectables worth?

FIND OF THE MONTH

I inherited this antique wooden glass showcase that belonged to my great-great-grandmother. Can you please tell me anything about it and its value?

JC Lingenfelder, via e-mail

Paul Mrkusic of Bancroft Vintage Emporium says a piece of pure and playful Art Deco furniture like this one always puts a smile on his face. "Not many contemporary homes feature display cabinets these days, but they're a superb way to include a tall, interesting piece of furniture that shows off a personal treasures while keeping them safe from dust.

"This particular cabinet has great appeal in today's market because of its quirky shape and the way its design epitomises this vibrant 20th-century period. In addition, it shows the use of walnut veneer, a popular method of giving the appearance of richness while at the same time cutting down on manufacturing costs in the lean times following the Wall Street crash and the Great Depression in 1929. Unlike pieces made today from chipboard and Supawood, the veneer was added to a sturdy and solid base timber such as teak. Thus the innovative design and quality materials make these pieces worth around R30 000. But they can often be bought for as little as R10 000 in vintage stores today."



We would love to find out more about this brass ashtray. My late father-in-law obtained it in Egypt during WWII when he was a soldier. The top section screws off and there's an imprint on the base: 'Made in British India'.

It's 85mm high, the top diameter is 90mm and the base, 100mm.

Lizelle Bright, Malvern, KZN

"Some smoking accessories called tobacciana, including items connected to cigars, are very collectable," says Clyde Terry of Clyde on 4th. "From 1800 until the rise in popularity of cigarettes in WWI, men, and sometimes women, smoked cigars. Cigar smoking was an after-dinner ritual when men withdrew to puff away in their dens, leaving the women in the drawing room. All sorts of accessories were made for cigar smokers and these were sold in tobacco shops and haberdasheries. This brass ashtray was probably made for this purpose but unfortunately is only worth about R40."

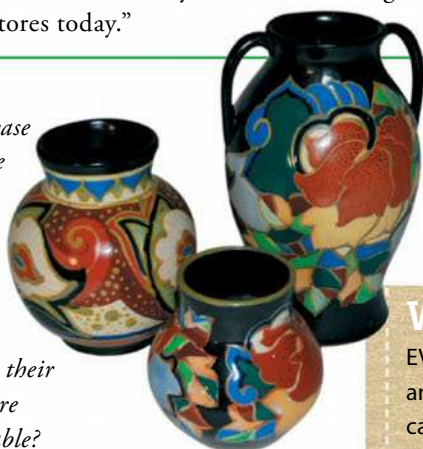


Can you please tell me more about these Japanese Spode vases I bought some years ago? What's their value and are they collectable?

Keith Wilson, via e-mail

According to our Art Deco expert Geoff Burr of Burr & Muir Antiques, these vases could well be Japanese, as the Japanese copied everything. "If they're Japanese or genuine Spode, they'd be valued at around R120 per piece.

"If they're Gouda, the name of the town in Holland where this type of pottery was produced from the 1920s onwards, they might fetch R250 per piece. You'd have to check the maker's mark to be sure."



EXPERT TIP: "SMOKING COLLECTABLES TO LOOK OUT FOR ARE THOSE MADE FROM BAKELITE (THE FIRST PLASTIC TO BE MANUFACTURED) AND MURANO GLASS ASHTRAYS. LIGHTERS, LIKE DUNHILL AND ZIPPO FOR INSTANCE HAVE VALUE IF THEY'RE RARE AND UNUSUAL," SAYS CLYDE TERRY

WRITE IN AND WIN

EVERY MONTH we give away a *prize for the most valuable or interesting antique item sent in. Congratulations to **JC Lingenfelder** who's won two cases of 2015 Van Loveren Sauvignon Blanc as well as a surprise hamper of Van Loveren products worth R800. The first of their wines with the new Van Loveren label, this crisp and fruity Sauvignon Blanc has gooseberry and green fig flavours and is delicious with seared tuna and fresh oysters or just enjoy it on its own. Visit vanloveren.co.za

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Send in clear photographs of collectable items to Treasure Chest, SA Garden and Home, Box 3124, Parklands 2121. Due to the volume of mail we are unable to respond personally or return photographs. Send e-mail submissions to gardenhome@caxton.co.za. Pictures must be sent as separate attachments at a size between 1MB and 2MB. Only one submission per reader will be accepted. For guidelines on the best way to take your photos for Treasure Chest, visit our website gardenandhome.co.za



THANKS TO OUR SPECIALISTS:

Geoff Burr Burr & Muir Antiques 021 422 1319 **Paul Mrkusic** Bancroft Vintage Emporium 011 784 6922 **Clyde Terry** Clyde on 4th 011 482 3266



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last word on style

HIGH FIVE

Jo'burg-based Jason Sandows is one of South Africa's most exciting new design talents. He shares some of his favourite things

If being young, talented and good-looking were the jackpot, then Jason Sandows has definitely won it. The creative force behind interior design company House of Shiloh, this energetic Jo'burg designer is responsible for interiors that command the local vernacular while reflecting global excellence.

Last year Jason was selected to design rooms in an apartment for the TV show *FourD* and mentored by the internationally acclaimed designer Stephen Falcke. More recently he was asked to exhibit his range of furniture at Design Indaba. This multi-talented creative is also a qualified fashion designer and an award-winning marketing mind who happens to be an accomplished sportsman; he played rugby for the Golden Lions, competed in Argentina and set yet-to-be-broken athletics records.

JASON'S BEST...

SPACE is Amatuli (1) in Kramerville, Jo'burg. "I love the eclectic feel of the store and the selection of furnishings is amazing. From hand-woven fabric and crafts to photographic prints and furniture, Amatuli really is a decor adventure. Items are sourced from all four corners of the world – places like Africa, India, China and Indonesia. The staff are also worth mentioning; they're always well-informed and friendly and are prepared to go the extra mile for clients."



PROJECT was the room he designed for a reality design show (2).

The show, made in association with SABC 3 and Expresso, followed the progress of four designers who were tasked with creating an apartment at Steyn City (a new development north of Jo'burg). "I was given the theme Earth and interpreted it by using products and decor items that capture the beauty of natural materials."

PIECE OF FURNITURE is the cantilever chair (3) first developed by Dutch architect Mart Stam in 1926. "This chair represented the innovative spirit of the time and the fact that cantilever chairs are still so popular today is testament to the genius of the design."

LOCAL DESIGNERS are Adriaan Hugo and Katy Taplin from Dokter and Misses. "I love their modern approach to classic furniture pieces like this Kassena dresser (4). I also find the way that they interpret their surroundings in their work very interesting."

LOCAL HANGOUT is the Maboneng Precinct (5). "It has a youthful energy that perfectly represents the creative spirit of South Africa."



SOURCES Amatuli amatuli.co.za Dokter and Misses dokterandmisses.com House of Shiloh 084 520 1010
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